

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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## SUNDAY-TRADING AND SABBATH SPIES.

Will no member of Parliament win a name for himself, and do his country good service, by purging the British statute-book of "anomalies"? There are plenty of them there; and their extirpation would offer a fair field for the exertions of a young member ambitious of distinction, and with time, intelligence, energy, and perseverance at his command. All Acts of Parliament that have fallen into desuetude; all that are at variance with subsequent legislation; all that have ceased to accomplish the objects for which they were designed, or have been made to subserve purposes which their framers never contemplated; all that are adverse to current ideas, habits, and requirements; all that, having been intended to serve a temporary purpose, have outlived their uses; all enactments, in short, that, from their nature and associations, or by reason of changed circumstances, have in these days become anomalies, should be ruthlessly hunted up and repealed. Any portions of these laws that are useful, and have not been embodied in later statutes, might be re-enacted; but a clean sweep should be made of the legal rubbish that now encumbers, confuses, and in no small degree disgraces, the British statutebook. We know we are proposing a big job; but it is a job that stands very greatly in need of being done, for it is not well that that should remain law which does not commend itself to the national conscience as right, or that any statute should continue in existence that can be justly characterised by our magistrates as an "anomaly," and the provisions of which they feel ashamed to enforce. A Commission is now engaged, we believe, in codifying the law of England; but surely purgation of the statutes ought to precede their codification.

An anomaly among anomalies is that Act, passed in the reign of Charles II., of moral and religious yet merry memory, which makes it unlawful for any man to follow his ordinary calling on the Sabbath. That statute is not only in itself, in these days, an anomaly, as the Marlborough-street magistrate called it, but it is also the source of many other anomalies. For instance, it is not lawful—according to legislation *temp. Carolus Secundus*—for a tobacconist to sell a cigar or a half-ounce of snuff on a Sunday; and yet we will make bold to say that tobacconists' shops and purchasers of cigars and snuff on Sundays were things unknown when the Act was passed, simply because the habits they represent and the wants they supply did not then exist. Under this Act, it is not unlawful to sell spirits, wines, and beer on that day, because later enactments have accidentally made these things subjects of legal traffic during certain hours on Sunday. But that accidental legislation only renders more glaring the anomaly that one man should be at liberty to follow his "ordinary vocation on the Lord's Day," while another must not. Selling beer is as much the "ordinary vocation" of the publican as selling cigars is that of the tobacconist. Again, certain mechanics must not work on Sundays, while others not only may, but do. Carpenters, masons, bricklayers, and all who labour, as it were, in public, are debarred from wielding chisel, mallet, or trowel on Sundays; while tailors, shoemakers, artists, authors, and all who can keep out of sight, are free to do on that day as unto them seemeth good. A shepherd, again, if his ox or his sheep falleth into a pit on the Sabbath, may pull it out; but, according to some pious wiseacres, the husbandman must not gather in his hay or house his corn on that day, even though doing so may be in-

dispensable to saving his crops from destruction. We shall be told, no doubt, that, as regards some of the illustrations we have adduced, things done out of sight, are not for that reason justifiable, and are only tolerated when unseen. Granted; but then a law that does not appeal to the universal conscience of mankind for obedience, and cannot be universally enforced, is itself an anomaly, and has no true *raison d'être*.

But perhaps the most flagrant anomaly exhibited under this Charles II. legislation is this—that the parties who labour to enforce its provisions must inevitably be violators of the spirit, if not the letter, of the law. The "Rev. Mr. Wright," who makes it his business to find out who keeps open shop and vends tobacco or "sweetstuff" on Sunday, is thereby as truly following his "ordinary vocation" as is the tobacconist or the sweetstuff-seller; unless, indeed, he shelters himself under the plea that, preaching being his "ordinary vocation," whereas he only plays the spy on the Sabbath, he is not amenable to a charge of breach of the law. But then spying—if it be a lawful occupation at all—is certainly a worldly, and not a divine, calling, and therefore comes under the operation of the spirit of the law prohibiting Sunday work, whether it be exempt from the letter thereof or not. In point of fact, however, Mr. Wright is the paid officer of a society for securing the religious observance of the Sabbath; he lives by his office; part of his duty, as he interprets it, is to discover law-breakers; and he performs his work of espionage on Sundays; therefore, to all intents and purposes, he is constructively a violator of the law, though there may be difficulty in proving him to be so technically.



MARSHALL'S COTTAGE, DENHAM, NEAR UXBRIDGE, THE SCENE OF THE LATE MURDERS.



The profession of spy, or common informer, is not now, and never has been, held in high esteem in this country, if in any country. It is a dirty business, and carrying on the trade in the name of religion does not by any means lend it sweetness. Spies or common informers, under whatever pretences they may clothe their action, as they follow a mean trade, must be mean fellows; and, as they exercise their trade on Sunday, they must be Sabbath-breakers. If it be wrong to labour on the Sabbath, they must be wrongdoers, for they do labour on that day; and assuming a cloak of piety, and pretending to do their work in the name of religion, cannot remove the moral taint from their conduct, or free them from the charge of violating the very law they seek to enforce. Religion is not, and cannot be, promoted by outraging its own precepts; and law cannot win reverence by being enforced fitfully, partially, and through impure hands. Nor can these pietist spies shelter themselves under the example and privileges of the clergy, because the clergy, if they are to exercise their office of preaching the Gospel effectively, must of necessity do it on Sunday; whereas espionage under holy pretences is neither necessary, useful, nor edifying.

Let it be noted that we are not vindicating Sunday trading. We think it desirable that men should confine their money-getting to the six working-days of the week, and rest on the seventh; but about that we say nothing further at present. What we deprecate is the enforcing of law by illegal practices; the attempt to promote religion by irreligious conduct; the committing of care for the sanctity of the Sabbath to the unholy hands of mean spies and common informers; and the exhumation from the dust of generations of antiquated laws—laws which even magistrates declare to be anomalies in these times—in order that said spies may successfully ply their unworthy vocation. We object to coercion of any sort in matters of religion; but if men are to be made Sabbath-observers by Act of Parliament, let it be done under laws made in our own day, and framed specifically for that purpose, not under cover of ancient statutes, passed in a by-gone and not over-enlightened age; and let those laws be enforced by the regularly constituted and responsible authorities, not by private spies, or—if they like the phrase better—officers, meddling pietists, whose zeal is quickened by regard for that moiety of the fines inflicted which may chance to fall to their share, or, which is much the same thing, to that of the societies they represent.

Again, we ask, will no one undertake the task of purging the statute-book of anomalies, and thereby deliver the public from the tyranny of volunteer inquisitors, and at the same time relieve our magistrates from the degradation of enforcing laws of which they are ashamed and of which the national conscience disapproves?

#### THE DENHAM MURDERS.

JOHN JONES, alias Jenkins, alias Reynolds, alias Owen, who is charged with the seventh murder at Denham, was on Tuesday brought up for further examination before five of the Bucks county magistrates. As the prisoner had been committed under the Coroner's warrant, the inquiry was held within the county gaol at Aylesbury. A good deal of the evidence given was merely a repetition of that on the strength of which the Coroner has already sent the prisoner for trial. A carman named Salter, who gave the prisoner a ride from Hanwell to Uxbridge on Saturday, the 21st ult., said, "He told me that, though he had no money, he had a brother near Uxbridge from whom he should obtain some. I asked him where his brother lived; but he made a laugh on my asking him this, and said 'That's a question I shan't answer.' He said he should not go to his brother until after dark. He also said he had roved about the country, had spent a good deal of money in his time, and had been a 'rackety covey.'" This witness had some difficulty in identifying the prisoner in court. The room in which the examination was held not being a regular police court, there was no prisoner's dock, and it was not easy to see who was occupying the position of the accused. The witness first pointed to a reporter as the man to whom he gave a lift; when the prisoner said, "Look at me, and see if I was not the man." The witness, upon this, at once exclaimed, "Yes, you are the man. Beant you the man who rode with me to Uxbridge?" Mrs. Simpson, who walked with the prisoner on the Sunday morning, on the road between Denham and Uxbridge, and who at first fancied on that occasion that she was talking to Marshall himself in consequence of the prisoner being dressed in the deceased's clothes, identified him in a moment, as did Margaret Lyons, who keeps an old-clothes shop at Reading, and bought the murdered man's coat from the prisoner for 4s. 6d. Harriet Willis, to whom Jenkins showed the key of Marshall's house, recognised him directly, or, as she put it, "fast enough." Mrs. Spooner, a married sister of the murdered man, identified the guard of a watch, pawned by the prisoner at Uxbridge, as the property of her late sister. She also spoke to finding £20 and a gold wedding ring since the murders in her sister's box in the house where the crime was committed. She said the prisoner was not at all like either of her brothers who had gone to Australia. James Weston, assistant to the pawnbroker at Uxbridge, with whom the watch and chain of the murdered woman were pledged, identified the prisoner as having pawned the articles. On being committed for trial, the prisoner made no answer to the charge, but said, "Can't I claim the 5s. 9d. which was taken from me?" To this the magistrates made no answer. The reports add that the prisoner shows no sort of feeling. He has prepared a statement in which he declares that, though found with the murdered people's property upon him, he is innocent of the murders, as the clothes were given to him by the real murderer, whom he professes to describe, and who, he alleges, gave him £2 10s. and the clothes to hold his tongue about the matter.

On Sunday last the scene of the murder was visited by immense crowds, who arrived in omnibuses, pleasure-vans, and traps from all parts of the county and the metropolis. About fifty or sixty went down on bicycles, and at one time the police had great difficulty in keeping the mass of traffic moving. A fir-tree in the garden has been nearly stripped for relics and mementoes of the horrid event. A funeral sermon was preached at Denham church, by the Rev. Mr. Joyce, the clergyman who buried all the family.

The house in which the poor family lived is in a very pretty spot, about two miles beyond Uxbridge and close on the Oxford road. The cottage stands a little back from the road, and is almost seventy yards distant from any other house. Adjoining it is a little forge where Samuel Marshall worked as an engineer and smith in a small way. The man was comfortably off, sober and industrious, working early and late.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

M. Ollivier has resolved to put a stop to the toleration which, with great benefit to the public, has for the last year allowed the publication in late editions of the evening papers of a short summary of the debates in the Chamber for the day. The *Journal Officiel* is instructed to announce that the law will be put in force against all papers which publish any other than the "official reports." This announcement has caused great dissatisfaction.

In the Chamber, on Monday, M. Jules Ferry drew attention to the prevalence of smallpox in Paris. He stated that 209 persons died of it last week, and that the disease was still increasing. M. Jules Ferry proposed that gratuitous vaccination should be introduced, and other means adopted with a view to stop the progress of the epidemic. The Minister of the Interior, in reply, said that the Government was anxiously studying the question. Among the persons now suffering from smallpox are Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne and the Duke de Caumont. Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, however, is progressing favourably, and he is again designated as the probable Minister to Vienna in the place of the Duke of Gramont. It is reported that M. Prévost-Paradol will be appointed Minister at Washington.

It is believed that the following will be the principal features of the new press law:—A reduction of one centime on the stamp tax, to begin on Jan. 1, 1871; its complete abolition by January, 1872; and the imposition of a tax on advertisements. The postage will remain unchanged. It is expected that the Government will not maintain its proposal to reduce the salary of the Senators from 30,000f. to 15,000f.

The *Gazette des Tribunaux* informs us that seventy-four prisoners are to be tried before the High Court at Blois for conspiracy; and, further, that Terrail, Protot, and ten other men who have undergone a long term of preventive imprisonment, have been set at liberty. Evidently the dimensions of the formidable plot which so startled France on the eve of the plebiscite are dwindling down, when, with all their efforts, the Attorney-General and Prefect of Police can only whip up seventy-four prisoners. Remark that when Protot, the advocate charged with the defence of Megy, was arrested, we were informed that he was a most desperate character; papers of the utmost importance were said to have been found in his apartment, and he was looked upon as a very dangerous conspirator. Terrail has been much longer in prison than Protot, who was only incarcerated about a month ago; and during his confinement his character has been blackened with accusations which have since been refuted. It is not at all certain that before the day of trial another batch of prisoners will not be liberated.

#### SWITZERLAND.

A body of Italian refugees having suddenly left Lugano for the Lake of Como, the Federal Council has ordered the remaining refugees to be confined in the interior, and the frontier to be strictly guarded.

#### SPAIN.

In Tuesday's sitting of the Cortes, Senor Garrido proposed the immediate election of a King, but he failed on three successive divisions. He then moved that the Federal Republic should be accepted as the definitive form of government. The report of the Committee on the bill for the election of a monarch was read. The debate on the subject will be announced three days beforehand, and the sitting is to last until the election has been accomplished. All deputies will sign the ticket containing their vote. The election of the King will be valid if voted only by a majority of one of the deputies present. After the election, the King has, in the *plenum* of the Cortes, to take the oath to the Constitution. To the above, Senor Rogo Arias moved the amendment to elect a monarch by an absolute majority of the deputies, whether present or not. Marshal Prim has written a letter requesting the members of the Cortes to be in their places on June 6, as an explanation is to be given on that day of the efforts made by the Ministry to put an end to the interregnum. The partisans of Marshal Espartero have published a manifesto calling on the country to elect him King, and strongly opposing the maintenance of the present Regency.

A bill has been brought forward in the Cortes for the abolition of slavery in the colonies of Spain. Its principal provisions are that all slave children born since the revolution of 1868 shall be declared free on payment by the Government of a sum of fifty crowns to the owners for each child; and that all slave children born after the proposed measure becomes law shall be declared free without any payment. The bill has been well received by the Cortes.

It is stated that one of the band which captured Mr. Bonell near Gibraltar has taken steps to communicate with the authorities. Mr. Bonell and his nephew were captured by artifice, being induced to accompany five men to look at a horse which they alleged was for sale.

#### ITALY.

From Florence we have some particulars of the movements of the band of Italian refugees who left Lugano for the Lake of Como. The band is said to consist of about fifty persons, and to carry with it a banner bearing the inscription, "God and the People." Among the members are some non-commissioned officers who deserted from Pavia after the disturbances there. The band seized the ammunition at the Customs guardhouse of Casino, but retreated upon being pursued by the troops.

Signor Sella, the Italian Finance Minister, has brought forward his Budget for 1871. It shows a surplus of 2,700,000 lire. In the war expenditure there is a reduction of thirteen millions, and of twenty-two millions in the administrative expenses. The irreducible expenditure is, however, increased by fifteen millions, and the public works by thirty-six millions, twenty millions of which may perhaps be reduced by transferring to a private company the construction of the Calabrian railways. Signor Sella defended the retrenchments the Government proposed, and declared that the Ministry would not remain in office were they not adopted. A motion for closing the general debate was adopted by 165 against 107.

The Assize Court of Naples has pronounced sentence upon the band of brigands which captured Mr. Moens and Mr. Murray. The chief, Manzi, and two others are condemned to death, nine of the prisoners are sentenced to penal servitude for life, three to twenty-one years' imprisonment, and one to twenty years'.

#### HOLLAND.

After several days' debating, the Second Chamber of the States General have carried, by forty-eight against thirty votes, a bill to abolish capital punishment in Holland.

#### ROUMANIA.

The Paris Central Committee of the "Alliance Israelite Universelle" has communicated to the papers a telegram announcing that, on the night of the 29th ult., at Botucshany, in Roumania, the Christian population violently attacked the Jews, and committed a terrible massacre. On the following day the attack was renewed, and a great part of the Jews fled the city. The telegram describes the fury of the populace as horrible, and implores succour.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

The House of Representatives has referred to the President petitions from the Fenians Nagle and Warren, British prisoners, who asked for the interference of the Government in their behalf. The House requests the President to take such action as international law and the facts of the case shall justify.

#### CANADA.

The Fenian invasion of Canada has proved an utter failure. According to information received on Monday evening at the Colonial Office, no fresh attack had been made by the Fenians upon Canada. As many as 1500 of the raiders were said to be in

the neighbourhood of Malone without money to pay their railway fare home. A New York telegram states that they are in a starving condition. Owing, however, to exaggerated reports in the American newspapers, fresh batches of raiders were arriving. "No Fenian," the official telegram states, "has penetrated a mile into Canada, or stood half an hour on Canadian soil." A number of the Fenian leaders had been arrested by the United States Marshal, and imprisoned at Malone. According to a New York telegram, the Fenians lost eight men killed and twenty wounded in an engagement at the Trout River, besides three killed and ten wounded at Freeburg. No casualties occurred among the Canadians. We learn by telegram from New York that a party of Fenians, having refused to enter the car at Williams-town, New York, were fired upon by the Federal troops, and several were wounded.

Sir John Macdonald is very ill, and not expected to survive. The New York papers publish news to the effect that a fire was raging in the forests of the Saguenay region in Canada, an area of five miles by thirty. A number of persons had perished in the flames, and 300 families in the villages of Saguenay were rendered destitute.

#### HOW GREEKS DEAL WITH BRIGANDS.

THE following letter appears in No. 12 of the series of papers issued by the Foreign Office respecting the massacre at Marathon. It is addressed by Vice-Consul Blakeney to Mr. Erskine, and gives a detailed account of the destruction of three brigands by a family named Shermani:—

Missolonghi, May 11, 1870.

Sir,—In conformity with Mr. Merlin's despatch, her Majesty's Consul at the Piræus, of Feb. 16 last, appointing me British Vice-Consul for the district of Etolia and Acarnania, to reside at Missolonghi, and giving me instructions to keep your Excellency fully informed in all matters of political or public interest, it is with great pleasure I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency of the destruction of three brigands on the evening of the 5th inst. at Arakova, in the district of Kravara, by three brothers named Shermani and a servant of theirs. The above-mentioned Shermani, who have been the instruments of the destruction of these brigands, had, it seems, on former occasions befriended their victims, who on the day on which this affair took place had gone over to the Shermani's house to dine and enjoy themselves, little thinking that their destruction had been carefully planned.

The plan of the Shermani was the following:—That the brigands should be shown into a loop-holed room, while two of the Shermani and a servant should station themselves without the house, each before a loop-hole; the fourth (one of the brothers) should remain with the brigands until their repast had been all but completed, when he should call for sweetmeats, which of course were never to come forward; and, as if angry with one of the servants for this unnecessary delay, get up and proceed to the kitchen, pretending he was going to bring them up himself; in the meantime those who were ready, gun in hand, and stationed as above stated, should pour a volley into the room and shoot down the brigands. The above plan partly succeeded. The deadly volley was discharged, and three out of the four brigands were killed on the spot; but the fourth effected an escape through one of the windows, and has not since been heard of. This account has been confirmed by the Nomarch himself the day before yesterday, when I had the pleasure of receiving a call from him. He also informed me that he had given orders to have the heads of those brigands sent hither, so as to be exhibited outside the prison, which is situated close to the barracks. The Nomarch also added that on the following day he was to proceed to Aënia, a village on the frontier, where he was to meet the Pacha of Epirus, in order that they might come to some understanding, so that the Turkish and Greek troops might co-operate against the brigands. I think it my duty further to add that the Nomarch informed me verbally that the officers now stationed in Acarnania should never have been entrusted with the suppression of brigandage, as they do not side with the Government party, but, unfortunately, are the tools of individuals whose object is the maintenance of the present deplorable state of affairs. The following are the names of the brigands who have been killed:—Spathia, a most notorious brigand chief, the terror of this town and surrounding village, and who, as far as I can make out, has been a brigand for upwards of five years; Kostandello, another brigand chief, and who has been such for about twenty years; Thanasia, said to be Kostandello's lieutenant. Should further news reach me on the subject, I shall consider it my duty to inform your Excellency.

I have, &c.,

C. A. BLAKENEY.

A PLEA FOR BIRDS.—We learn from an English paper that the golden orioles lately introduced into that country are slaughtered mercilessly by cockneys with guns. The orioles are native with us, as the sparrows are with the English, and we protest against this breach of international comity. The sparrows in New York override everybody and everything—in short, do precisely what they like, and "bully" the whole population, and yet nobody meddles with them. It is a most unhandsome acknowledgment of this courtesy that the American birds in England should be treated with barbarous inhospitality.—*New York Times*.

PATRONAGE IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—At a meeting of the General Assembly last week a letter was read from the Duke of Argyll to the Moderator on the subject of patronage. His Grace, referring to the vote of the Assembly in favour of an alteration of the present law of patronage, accepts that vote as representing the deliberate opinion of the Church, and states that he deems it to be his duty, as a member of the Established Church of Scotland and as one of the principal holders of patronage in Scotland, to render whatever service it may be in his power towards a satisfactory solution of the question. His Grace further states, if any measure should be ultimately adopted involving compensation to patrons, he should be ashamed to regard such compensation otherwise than as a foul scandal to the service of the Church. The letter was ordered to be recorded, and to be referred to the patronage committee to prepare a suitable answer.

THE GREEK MASSACRE.—Another series (the thirteenth) of despatches respecting the tragedy in Greece was issued from the Foreign Office on Tuesday. In the first of these despatches Mr. Frank Noel, writing to Mr. Edward Noel on May 4, states that on the very morning of the tragedy the brigands privately told him that, in default of obtaining the amnesty or a formal trial, they were willing to accept the terms offered them—viz., to receive the ransom and leave the country in an English steamer. Mr. Noel further says that later in the morning he wrote to Colonel Théagéis informing him of the intention of the band to leave Oropos for Sykamenos, and urging that if the lives of the prisoners were to be saved the troops should be withdrawn and everything done to prevent a collision. "It is a most melancholy affair," he says, in conclusion, referring to the massacres, "and one cannot help being disgusted at the horrible mismanagement." A long report of the deposition made in Florence by the servant of Count Boyl follows this despatch. From Vice-Consul Blakeney at Missolonghi there is a short note to Mr. Erskine, stating that a famous brigand chief (Deli) had been killed, with five or six of his followers, by a mixed party of soldiers and civilians. "The inhabitants of Xirometro were so exasperated," says the note, "by the perpetual atrocities committed by that monster, that when he was shot down they rushed upon him and actually cut him in pieces. His head, however, was brought here yesterday, and was exposed outside the Commandant's quarters."

ANIMAL COURAGE INFERIOR TO MORAL BRAVERY.—Mere animal courage is often associated with the worst vices. The most wonderful examples of it may be found in the history of pirates and robbers, whose fearlessness is generally proportioned to the insensibility of their consciences and to the enormity of their crimes. And military courage is easily attained by the most debased and unprincipled men, who may be brave from the absence of all reflection, proud of life because their vices have robbed life of its blessings, and especially brave because the sword of martial law is hanging over their heads. If war be a blessing because it awakens energy and courage, then the savage state is peculiarly privileged, for every savage is a soldier. On the same principle those early periods of society were happy, when men were called to contend, not only with one another, but with beasts of prey; for to these excitements we owe the heroism of Hercules and Theseus. On the same principle, the feudal ages were more favoured than the present. I repeat, we need not war to awaken human energy. There is at least equal scope for courage and magnanimity in blessing as in destroying mankind. The condition of the human race offers inexhaustible objects for enterprise, and fortitude, and magnanimity. In relieving the countless wants and sorrows of the world, in exploring unknown regions, in extending the bounds of knowledge, in diffusing the spirit of freedom, and especially in spreading the light and influence of Christianity, how much may be dared, how much endured? Philanthropy invites us to services which demand the most intense, and elevated, and resolute, and adventurous activity. Let it not be imagined that were nations imbued with the spirit of Christianity they would be unwarlike and ignoble; that instead of the high-minded murderers who are formed on the present system of war, we should have effeminate and timid slaves. Christian benevolence is as active as it is forbearing. It will give a new extension to the heart, open a wider sphere to enterprise, inspire a courage of exhaustless resource, and prompt to every sacrifice and exposure for the improvement of the human race. The energy of this principle has been tried and displayed in the fortitude of the martyr, and in the patient labours of those who have carried the Gospel into the dreary abodes of idolatry. Away, then, with the argument that war is needed as a nursery of heroism.—*Channing*.



## LAUNCH OF H.M.S. SULTAN.

The launch of her Majesty's ship *Sultan*, the most powerful ironclad afloat, attracted a large and rather fashionable crowd to Chatham Dockyard on Tuesday. A modern launch is not a very thrilling sight; at least when the vessel in question is an ironclad. Indeed, the word launch is misapplied, for the process is nothing more than a mere "floating out" of dock. But if the people did not come to see the ship, they were possibly attracted by the intimation which had previously been given that the Turkish Ambassador was to be present with his daughter. The new ship's name suggests Turkish thoughts, and the consent of the daughter of the Turkish Ambassador formally to give it its name was very appropriate. The weather, unfortunately, was not all that could be desired; it pretended to be fine, and the sun held his own manfully till within a few minutes of the ceremony, when, as soon as everybody had assembled, and no one had a chance of escape, the clouds had their revenge, and drenched most of the spectators with a heavy shower of rain. At about half-past twelve the Turkish Ambassador and his daughter, escorted by Sir Spencer Robinson, the Captain-Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard; Mr. Reed, and several other military and naval officers, made their appearance; and at a quarter to one the ceremony of setting the ship free was performed, and she was slowly towed out into the Medway. The sight can hardly be called interesting, even under the most favourable circumstances—it is in no way to be compared to the old launches of men-of-war—but the assembly was much larger than usual, and several people were disappointed in procuring tickets.

As to the vessel itself, there can be no question about its power. Of late years we have had the satisfaction of knowing how very superior each new vessel is to the last that was launched. It would not be so easy to determine offhand, however, that the *Sultan*, powerful and heavily armed as she is, is superior to the *Captain*, which was launched last year; but one thing is certain, and will be readily admitted on all hands, that she is superior to the *Monarch* and *Hercules*, which were last built at Chatham Dockyard. The *Sultan* is not exactly like either of these vessels, but she may not unfairly be classed with the *Hercules*. Indeed, it appears that she was designed on the model of this vessel; though the original design has been considerably altered and modified to suit the requirements of modern construction, and to avoid the defects which the experience of the last two years has pointed out. In two respects the *Sultan* will be superior to the *Hercules*—in being more heavily plated with armour and in carrying a heavier and more effective armament. In her most vulnerable parts she will be protected with 9-in. armour plates, and in other parts with iron 8 in. and 6 in. in thickness. Great care and attention have been given to apportion these plates in various thicknesses over her sides, so as to give her ample protection and at the same time not to interfere with her speed. This point is of very great importance, for in it is really contained the peculiar merit of Mr. Reed's principles of construction. The old idea, that size and speed were convertible terms, and that size was indispensable when heavy armour and speed were required, has been altogether abandoned of late years; and from the time when the *Bellerophon* was launched may be dated the introduction of small, powerful, but swift ships. The *Hercules* and *Sultan* are of this class. They can carry heavier armaments than the *Agincourt* or *Minotaur*, are better protected, are more heavily armed, and are about 1000 tons less in burden. While the *Agincourt* has a tonnage of 6621 tons, and is plated with 5½-in. or 6-in. armour, the *Hercules* has only 5234 tons, and carries in some parts 8 in. of armour plating; and this difference in tonnage has a very serious influence on the cost of construction; for, while the *Agincourt* cost more than £450,000, the *Hercules* cost at least £50,000 less. The modern method of constructing short, powerful ironclads has produced a great saving in the cost of their construction; and it is certainly most satisfactory to know that this saving has not been effected at the cost of any loss of power or deficiency in construction in modern ships. The *Sultan*, then, is more heavily plated than the *Hercules*; but her special superiority lies in the fact that she will be able to carry a heavier armament. The problem which has worried and troubled constructors lately has been how to provide for the carriage of the ponderous ordnance now used in such vessels as the *Hercules* and *Sultan*. The *Hercules* carries one powerful battery on her main deck; but on her upper decks she can only carry small guns. Now, the *Sultan* not only carries as formidable an armament as the *Hercules* on her main deck, consisting of eight 18-ton guns, but she will carry in addition, on the upper deck, two 12½-ton guns in a small inclosed battery. This upper-deck battery projects slightly from the sides, and is plated with 5-in. and 6-in. armour. This advantage has been gained, not so much by a peculiarity of construction as by a clever distribution of weights. While the *Hercules* carried on the main deck at the stem a 12½-ton gun protected by 6-in. armour, the *Sultan* is enabled, by dispensing with this stem gun, to carry two on her upper deck and to plate the upper-deck battery instead of the stem. It may be asked, not without some reason, why any change should be made, and why it is better to have a small upper-deck battery than to have a powerful gun at the stem on the main deck. The answer is—first, that a battery of two guns is obtained in place of one, with an almost all-round fire instead of a limited range; and, secondly, because it was proved in the cruise of the Channel squadron that in rough weather it was impossible to open the ports and use the main-deck guns, which were thus completely muzzled. On both these grounds an upper-deck battery is a great improvement, and will make the *Sultan*, though a broadside vessel, a formidable rival to a turret-ship, and an undesirable antagonist to a vessel built on either principle. The workmanship ought not to be passed by without notice; for it is of the best class, compares favourably with that of any vessel in the Navy, and reflects great credit on Mr. Thornton, the master shipwright of the yard. The *Sultan* will not remain long in the Medway, but will probably proceed to Portsmouth without delay to be fitted.

**OPENING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT RAILWAY.**—The extension of the Metropolitan District line from Westminster to Blackfriars was opened for passenger traffic on Monday morning. The line is, of course, in a state of complete efficiency, but much work is yet required to be done before the stations at Hungerford, the Temple, and Blackfriars will be thoroughly fitted for comfortable use. At all the Embankment stations there will be entrances from the Strand and the river esplanade. A train service at short intervals from early morning until near midnight will meet the requirements of the public in a satisfactory manner.

**CRIME IN THE METROPOLIS.**—The criminal returns of the Metropolitan Police for the last year, just issued, show that during 1869 there were no fewer than 72,951 persons taken into custody, of whom 28,355 were discharged by the magistrates, 40,408 were summarily convicted or held to bail, 4188 were committed for trial, 3283 were convicted and sentenced, 774 were acquitted, and 131 bills were thrown out. Of these offenders 327 had been convicted twice before, 36 had been convicted three times, and 3 four times. During the same period 4946 persons had been reported to the police as lost or missing, of whom 2454 were returned to their relatives by the police. There were 134 suicides (nearly a hundred less than the previous year), and 392 suicides were prevented by the police. There were 593 fires, exclusive of chimneys. The number of arrests in 1831, the first year of the establishment of the new police, is almost identical with that of last; but the returns of last year show that the number of convictions and sentences is just double what it was in 1831, proving that arrests are now more cautiously made and on much stronger evidence than they were formerly. Of these convicted last year, 2634 were males and 649 females; of these, 524 males and 158 females could neither read nor write; 1944 males and 487 females could read only, or read or write very imperfectly; 166 males and only 4 females could read and write well; and there was only one person, a man, who had superior instruction. These facts tell their own tale. Of the ages of the criminal, there is only one under 10 years of age, who gets a month's imprisonment; there were 75 under 15, and 813 under 20; 784 under 25, 513 under 30, 591 under 40, 312 under 50, 141 under 60, and 63 of 60 and upwards. From 15 to 25 seems to be the age most prolific of crime in the males, and from 20 to 25 in the females. Of those convicted no fewer than 19,683 females and 19,541 males are returned as of no trade or occupation whatever.

## THE REVISION OF THE SCRIPTURES.

At the first meeting of the Committee appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury, May 6, 1870, the following resolutions and rules were agreed to, as the fundamental principles on which the revision is to be conducted:—

1. That the Committee appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury at its last session separate itself into two companies—the one for the revision of the authorised version of the Old Testament, the other for the revision of the authorised version of the New Testament.
2. That the company for the revision of the authorised version of the Old Testament consist of the Bishops of St. Davids, Llandaff, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells; and of the following members from the Lower House: Archdeacon Rose, Canon Selwyn, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.
3. That the company for the revision of the authorised version of the New Testament consist of the Bishops of Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, and Salisbury; and of the following members from the Lower House: The Prolocutor, the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster, and Canon Blakesley.
4. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the Old Testament Company be the revision of the authorised version of the Pentateuch.
5. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the New Testament Company be the revision of the authorised version of the Synoptical Gospels.
6. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the Old Testament Company:—Dr. W. L. Alexander, Professor Chinnery, Canon Hook, Professor A. B. Davidson, Dr. B. Davies, Professor Fairbairn, the Rev. F. Field, Dr. Ginsburg, Dr. Gotch, Archdeacon Harrison, Professor Leathes, Professor M'Gill, Canon Payne Smith, Professor E. H. Perowne, Professor Plumptre, Canon Pusey, Dr. Wright (British Museum), W. A. Wright (Cambridge).
7. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the New Testament Company:—Dr. Angus, the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Eadie, the Rev. F. J. A. Hort, the Rev. W. G. Humphry, Canon Kennedy, Archdeacon Lee, Dr. Lightfoot, Professor Milligan, Professor Moulton, Dr. J. H. Newman, Professor Newth, Dr. A. Roberts, the Rev. G. Vance Smith, Dr. Scott (Balliol College), the Rev. F. Scrivener, Dr. Vaughan, and Canon Westcott.
8. That the general principles to be followed by both companies be as follow:—

To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the authorised version consistently with faithfulness.

To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the authorised and earlier English versions.

Each company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.

That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating, and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the authorised version was made the alteration be indicated in the margin.

To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each company, except two thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.

In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whenever the same shall be required by one third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.

To refer, on the part of each company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions.

9. That the work of each company be communicated to the other as it is completed, in order that there may be as little deviation from uniformity in language as possible.

10. That the special or by-rules for each company be as follows:—

To make all corrections in writing previous to the meeting.

To place all the corrections due to textual considerations on the left-hand margin, and all other corrections on the right-hand margin.

To transmit to the chairman, in case of being unable to attend, the corrections proposed in the portion agreed upon for consideration.

The New Testament Company will meet at twelve o'clock on June 22 and 23, at the Jerusalem Chamber, Cloisters, Westminster.

**DEATH OF MR. JOHN LINKLATER.**—A profound sensation was excited at the Bankruptcy Court, on Tuesday morning, on the fact of Mr. Linklater's death becoming known. The deceased gentleman was the senior partner in the firm of Linklater, Hackwood, and Addison, solicitors, of Walbrook; and for several years he was one of the most eloquent and successful advocates in this court at a time when the business was chiefly in the hands of the attorneys. Almost the last occasion of his appearance in court was in the case of Sir S. M. Peto, when he opposed on behalf of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company. The deceased gentleman, though in delicate health for more than a year past, has been cut off somewhat suddenly by an acute attack of bronchitis. He died at Toulon, in France, at the comparatively early age of fifty-three.

**TRADE RETURNS.**—The Board of Trade returns for the month and four months ending April 30 last show very favourable results, and furnish strong evidence of the continued improvement in general business. The declared value of our exports last month was £17,355,470, against £15,624,475 in April, 1869, and £14,575,152 in April, 1868. The increase is in nearly every leading commodity—beer and ale, coals, cotton yarn and manufactures, hardware and cutlery, linen yarn and manufactures, machinery, iron and steel, copper and brass, silk manufactures, woollen yarn, and unenumerated articles being the principal. There is a falling off in apparel, haberdashery, and woollen manufactures; but it is very slight in each case. Among the imports free of duty, grain shows a slight diminution, and cotton a very large increase. The most important changes in the articles subject to duty, entered for home consumption, are an increased delivery of coffee, cocoa, and tea.

**ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BEAT INSTITUTION.**—A meeting of this institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards were granted to the crews of different life-boats for services on the occasion of shipwrecks on our coasts. The Willie and Arthur, tubular life-boat, at New Brighton, saved the crew of thirteen men and a pilot from the barque *Ida Maria*, of Dantzic, which, in attempting to enter the Mersey, had gone on the Little Burbo sandbank, on May 12, during a strong south-west gale and in a very heavy sea. The Newbiggin life-boat, William Hopkinson, of Brighouse, had also assisted to save, on May 11, six fishing-boats and their crews, they having been caught in a storm and being in imminent danger. The Christopher Ludlow life-boat, at Dungarvon, Ireland, was the means of saving the crew of three men of the schooner *Bertholli*, which struck on Dungarvon Bar during a southerly gale, and in a very heavy sea, on May 30, and was in danger of breaking up. The silver medal of the institution and a copy of the vote inscribed on vellum were granted to Mr. William Staggins, the second coxswain of the Telmnoth life-boat, on the occasion of his retirement from that office, in acknowledgment of his long and valuable services in that life-boat during the past nineteen years in saving life from shipwreck. Various other rewards were likewise granted to the crews of different shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on the coast of the United Kingdom. Payments, amounting to £1600, were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments, £1000 stock of the funded capital of the institution being ordered to be sold to meet in part the said payments. £50 had been handed to the society by William Chippendale, Esq., of Tunbridge Wells, at the request of his late son, Dr. Walter Chippendale. The late John Abbott, Esq., of Halifax, had left the institution a legacy of £2000, part of which sum was to be applied towards placing another life-boat on the coast. The late Miss Sarah Dorset, of Reading, had likewise bequeathed £100 to the society. A new life-boat had just been sent to the Isle of Arran, in Scotland; and the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company had readily granted the boat a free conveyance over their line. Reports were read from Captain J. R. Ward, R.N., inspector, and Captain D. Robertson, R.N., the assistant inspector of life-boats to the society, on their recent visits to the coast, and the proceedings then terminated.

## THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE FORCES IN IRELAND.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM MANSFIELD, G.C.B., who is about to succeed to the command of the forces in Ireland, on the expected resignation of Lord Strathnairn, is the fifth son of the late Mr. John Mansfield, of Diggeswell House, Hertfordshire, and was born at Ruxley, Surrey, in the year 1818. His paternal grandfather was the late Sir James Mansfield, at one time Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. He was educated at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, from which he entered the Army at the usual age, obtaining, in 1835, a commission as Lieutenant in the 53rd Regiment. He saw early some active service in India, having served with his regiment in the campaigns on the Sutlej in 1845-6. He was present at the battles of Buddiwal, Aliwal, and Sobraon, and in the latter engagement he acted as Aide-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief. In 1849 he commanded his regiment in the second Punjab campaign, and was present at Goojerat. In the years 1851 and 1852 he was constantly employed in the operations on the Peshawur frontier, at times in command of the 53rd, and again as attached to Sir Colin Campbell, commanding the forces; and he was present at the affairs of Nawadund, Pranghur, and Sharkote. In June, 1855, he was attached to the Embassy at Constantinople, with the rank of Brigadier-General, as responsible military adviser to her Majesty's Ambassador; and in the following August proceeded to the Crimea in the suite of his Excellency. Upon the termination of the Crimean War Sir William Mansfield was sent to Warsaw as Consul-General in Poland. On the outbreak of the Sepoy Mutiny, in 1857, he was nominated Chief of the Staff in India, with the local rank of Major-General, and in that capacity he attended the late Lord Clyde throughout the various military operations which led to the triumphant suppression of the mutiny, including the relief of Lucknow, the battle of Cawnpore (where he was wounded), the advance on Futteghur, and the action on the Kalee Nuddee, the siege of Lucknow, the campaign in Rohilcund, the battle of Bareilly, and the affairs at Shahjehanpore, the campaign in Oude, the actions of Doondea Khaira, and the Trans-Gogra campaign, including the various affairs which resulted in the complete subjugation of the province of Oude. Throughout the whole of that trying period, when the destinies of the British Empire in India seemed to be trembling in the balance, Sir William Mansfield occupied the position of chief adviser to the Commander-in-Chief, and during the whole of that struggle he performed the most conspicuous and valuable services. He was almost immediately afterwards selected to fill the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Bombay. Already—namely, in April, 1858—he had been rewarded by promotion to the rank of Major-General, and nominated a Knight Commander of the Bath, and in the following year he received the thanks of Parliament. On assuming the command of the Bombay army he was invested with the rank of a Lieutenant-General in India. In March, 1862, Sir William was gazetted Colonel of the 38th Regiment, and in February, 1865, he was appointed, as we have said, to succeed Sir Hugh Rose as Commander-in-Chief in India, with the local rank of General. He was advanced to the dignity of a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath only a few weeks ago.

**THE CONVENTUAL INQUIRY.**—Mr. J. V. Harting, a solicitor, who represented two hundred convents, was, on Tuesday, a witness before the Parliamentary Committee presided over by Mr. Villiers. He refused to state how many nuns there were in England, but said that they held property to the extent of 2 roods 34 perches each. The total income of their property would, if equally divided, amount to £6 16s. 3d. per head, and the difference between that sum and the cost of their living was made up by teaching. The witness expressed his opinion that convents and monasteries were without the law entirely, and on this ground he contended that he could not be called upon to give detailed information upon many points referred to by members of the Committee.

## "OPHELIA."

OF the four or five "Ophelias" which have challenged the attention of the visitors to the season's exhibitions, that which forms the subject of our Engraving is certainly not the least attractive. Not only has Mr. Selous produced a beautiful figure, but the accessories of wood, and bank, and field flower are so charmingly rendered as to impress the whole pathetic story of the great tragedy on our minds, and to lead us to realise afresh one of the most vivid of those suggested characters of the great dramatist which have such power over the imagination. Among the numerous striking pictures in the gallery of the New British Institution—a notice of which has already appeared in our columns—this recent work of Mr. Selous holds a deservedly prominent place.

## ST. PANCRAS NEW INFIRMARY.

WE this week publish an Engraving of a building which, although not quite completed, is already historical; for was not the new infirmary at Highgate the chief cause of all the bitterness, bickerings, and discussions that for a whole year rendered the parish of St. Pancras and its guardians subjects of scoffing and of reproach throughout the land? This source of discord has now been removed by the appropriation, at the instance of the Poor-Law Board, of the building as an infirmary to be occupied jointly by St. Pancras and other parishes; and, as new guardians have been elected, it is to be hoped that the troubled waters of St. Pancras will henceforth be calmed.

The Infirmary is situated at Highgate on a site containing about 3½ acres of land. On the highest or north side of the ground is placed the central or administrative block, extending from north to south. In the front portion are placed the porters' rooms, and immediately adjoining them are the male and female receiving-rooms, with water-closet and bath in each. Right and left of these are the dwellings of the resident surgeon and assistant surgeon, and matron, with bed-rooms, &c., in the floor above. On the other side are the board and waiting rooms, with lavatory attached. The matron's linen-room, &c., are on this side also. The centre is occupied by the store department, with steward's office overlooking. By the natural fall of the ground ample space is obtained for wine, beer, and other cellars beneath without excavation. The kitchen, scullery, and larders are adjoining, and occupy the centre of the entire range of buildings. On each side of the corridors are the steward and male servants' mess-rooms and the matron's and female servants' mess-rooms. The steward has a separate and a distinct house on the right of the main building, overlooking the entrance to the stores. The dispensary and operating-rooms are situated on the side of the intersecting corridor, between the male and female block; on the other side of the door dividing the cross corridor is the boiler-house, with stairs to coal-store below. A patients' clothes-store is close at hand here, entered from the covered way outside the building, which leads to foul wards. The laundry is approached by steps necessitated by the fall of the ground: these steps are divided in the middle from the male and female sides. Dry-houses for drying the clothes are provided for, and in addition a spacious drying-ground adjoins the laundry. All these buildings are lofty, and ventilated by top draughts. Beyond this laundry, and entirely detached from the rest, is a wash-house for foul linen, with fumigating-room, under which is a large tank for storage of rain-water. Various minor contrivances in convenient positions are placed throughout the buildings. The patients' blocks are placed on each side of the main block—the three blocks for females on the left, the two for males on the right. Accommodation for 256 females is provided, in two wards of three stories each, and one of two only—thirty-two beds in each ward. For male patients there is one block of three floors and one of two, providing for 160 patients. The wards are 22 ft. wide and 13 ft. 6 in. clear height, and are lighted by windows on each side, reaching within a foot of the ceiling; the upper part of the window is made to fall open for ventilation.



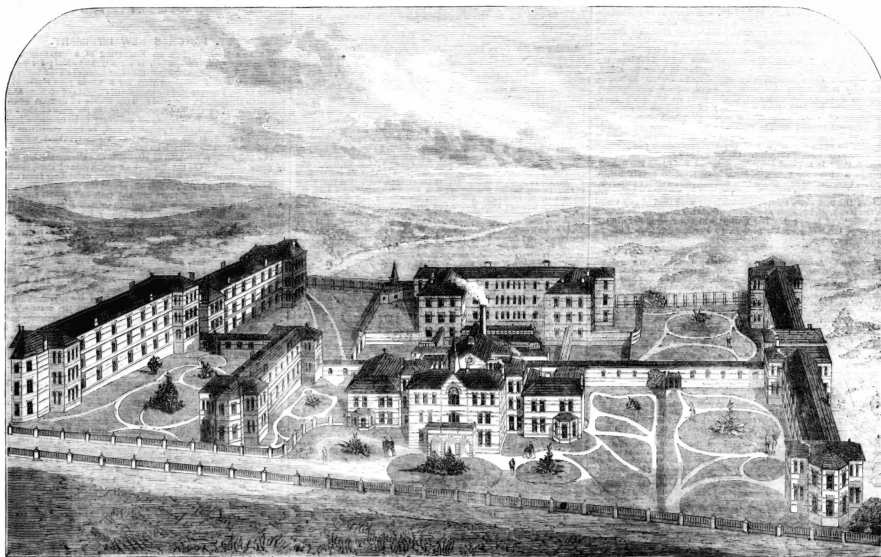


"THE SECRET."—(PICTURE BY CHARLES MARCHEL, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.)—SEE PAGE 365.

Open fireplaces are used for warming; the air, before passing into the wards, being heated by circulation round the stoves. Each ward has a staircase, with nurses' room overlooking ward and ward scullery; sink, and lift from corridors below for linen, food, &c.; a linen store, &c., at the one end of it, and shutters for dust and foul linen. At the other, on one side are a bath-room, lavatory

for patients, and other accommodation, all thoroughly ventilated by through draughts. At the extreme end is a day-room for the use of convalescent patients, with easy access from ward. The foul wards are entirely isolated, and contain accommodation for fifty-four patients of each sex, or 108 in all. They have lavatories, nurses' rooms, and sculleries for each particular class. The dead-

house is at the south-east corner of the ground, with the necessary post-mortem rooms, &c.; and removals can be made without the necessity of going near the main buildings. This infirmary has been erected from the designs of Messrs. John Giles and Birven. The contractor is Mr. W. Henshaw, whose contract amounts to £36,000. The clerk of the works is Mr. Culverhouse.



THE ST. PANCRA'S NEW INFIRMARY, HIGHGATE.





"OPHELIA."—(PICTURE BY H. SELOUS, IN THE GALLERY OF THE NEW BRITISH INSTITUTION, BOND-STREET.)



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 380.

"REPORT CONSIDERED."

THE House of Commons is more than five hundred years old. Reports of its proceedings have been regularly published in the morning papers for upwards of fifty years, and yet there are thousands of educated people in the country who know little or nothing of the forms of the House. For instance, a gentleman, on Friday in last week, having read in the *Times* that the consideration of the "Report" on the Irish Land Bill had been completed on the Thursday, asked us what this meant. "What is meant by the consideration of the Report?" said he. "The bill got through Committee some days ago, and I thought that the next stage would be the third reading." This ignorance is strange; but it is, as we know, not uncommon; and therefore once more—for we must have done it before—we will tell our readers what "consideration of the Report" means. After the second reading of a bill it is "committed"—that is, handed over to a Committee of the whole House, whose duty it is to examine the clauses one by one. Upon the duties of the Committee we need not dwell, nor upon the manner in which they perform them. We will suppose that the Committee has gone through the bill, and amended it or not, as the case may be; and now what is the next thing to be done? Why, obviously, to report what they have done to the House. It was not the House that examined the bill, but a Committee of the House; and, having finished its labour, it must report the result to the House. "Here," said the House, in effect, "take the bill and examine it clause by clause, and, if necessary, amend it; and, when you have done this, report to the House what you have done." Our readers must have often observed that when a Committee closes its work, Mr. Dodson puts the question, "that I report this bill as amended"—or without amendments, as the case may be—"to the House;" and then this, "That I do now leave the chair." Here, then, the Committee's work ends. The Chairman leaves his chair, the Speaker resumes his, and once more the character of the House changes. It is no longer in Committee, but, as the phrase is, "the House has resumed." Mr. Dodson, as soon as the Speaker has returned, goes up to the chair with the bill in his hand and thus reports:—"Sir, the Committee have gone through the bill and have made amendments thereto;" or, if no amendments have been made, "the Committee have gone through the bill, and have ordered me to report the same without amendments." If no amendments have been made, the bill is ordered to be read a third time on a certain day; but, if amendments have been made, then it is ordered that the bill, as amended, shall be considered on a future day. At present, the Committee only has amended, or, rather, has only proposed to amend the bill. Now, the House must consider these amendments, and decide whether it will accept or reject them. This, then, is what was meant by the announcement in the *Times* that the consideration of the report on the Irish Land Bill had been completed. This Irish Land Bill had been much amended in Committee, and it took the House two whole nights to consider the changes which the Committee had made; but on Thursday night week the work was done, and, amidst a regular salvo of cheers from the Ministerial benches, the Prime Minister announced that he should move that "the bill be read the third time and passed on Monday." All this which we have written will seem to many of our readers who are "up" in Parliamentary practices trite, and perhaps unnecessary, but to others it will, we are persuaded, be very acceptable.

## "THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE."

This wonderful bill has now been read the third time, passed, and sent to the House of Lords, where it was read a first time on Monday, all the lugubrious forebodings of despairing Liberals and the Fabian tactics and determined obstructions of oppugnant Tories notwithstanding. And now what shall we say about the gallant Captain who, with so much skill, knowledge, tact, resolution, and perseverance, steered the barque through its tortuous course, beset with rocks and shoals and harassed by storms, onward to its destined port? It is only three years ago since we used to read in all Conservative and in some Liberal papers, and had whispered in our ears, forebodings from Conservative and also Liberal members that Gladstone would never be able to lead the House of Commons. "No," he will never be able to lead the House. He is so excitable, so irritable; he has not the temper nor the tact for a leader." These sinister allegations we, as our readers will remember, never assented to. Indeed, we never believed that the prophets themselves had faith in their prophecies. The Liberals who thus prophesied were disappointed men; and as to the Conservatives, this prophesying was one of the tactics of the war. It seemed to us that a *mot d'ordre* had been given, or a general understanding had been come to, that Mr. Gladstone's qualifications to be the leader of the House were to be sedulously depreciated; and it is but justice to say that for a time the Conservatives loyally obeyed the command. Indeed, so industriously did they work that all over the land they succeeded in spreading amongst Conservatives the hope, and amongst Liberals the fear, that Gladstone as a leader would fail. In remote districts, on steam-boats, on the tops of stage-coaches, in the smoking-rooms of hotels, we ourselves often heard the remark, "I wish our friend Gladstone could restrain his temper." This from an honest Liberal; or from a Conservative, "Oh! he'll never do. His temper will soon upset the coach." "Great is the power of truth," said Lord Melbourne once in the House of Lords; and yet, my Lords, I sometimes think the power of a lie is as great." But his Lordship was wrong. The power of truth is permanent and growing, and in the end must be victorious. The power of a lie, especially in these days of a free press, can be but temporary; and this lie had but a very short life. It did not live much more than a year or two. It was most lively or active in 1866, when the Liberal Government was defeated upon its Reform Bill and had to retire. Certain disappointed Liberals, as we remember, used to whisper about, "Gladstone will never do. He has, you see, resigned in a pet." And of course the Conservatives, rubbing their hands with glee, echoed the strain. "Well, you see," said a Conservative member in our hearing, "Gladstone's temper has wrecked the ship. Didn't I tell you it would?" But, after this, the lie got to be sickly; and before the Conservative Government resigned in 1868, so courteously, and even generously, had Gladstone led the Opposition, that for very shame the slander had to be dropped. And now, probably, there is not a subject of her Majesty who believes it. When the brains are out the man will die, and so it must be in the end with falsehoods. And Gladstone, by the forbearance with which he treated his opponents when they were in office, and especially by the admirable temper, tact, and patience with which he carried the Irish Church Bill through the House last year, and has steered the Land Bill through its still more difficult course, has so effectually knocked the brains out of the slander to which we have alluded that it could not but die. True, sometimes he has had to lay the lash on to an impertinent Charley, or rub down a petulant Lord John Manners, or call Mr. Brodrick sharply to account, as he did last week, for aspersing certain Irish Judges; but in no case throughout the wearisome and oftentimes provoking iterations and reiterations of these debates has he ever shown any ill-temper, although, as we can aver, they have often been enough to disturb the serenity of a stoic or a saint; and how admirably has he, as we say here, "held the House"! Occasionally he had to leave the House, comparatively early, in the hands of the Home Secretary; and almost invariably, to use a military term, it got "demoralised." This was specially the case when Newdegate's monastery and convent Committee was under discussion. Rarely have we seen the House so chaotic as it was then. But on the last occasion our leader was in his place; and, as if by the wand of an enchanter, disorder vanished, and the vexed question which excited all that rage was amicably settled. So far, then, from it being true, as men said, that Gladstone could not be a good leader, he is one of the best

leaders the House ever had. For many years no Prime Minister has had such labour to perform as the carrying through the House two such measures as the Irish Church and the Irish Land Bills. And did ever Prime Minister carry a great measure so skilfully as he has steered these two tremendous bills into port?

## THE SECOND OMNIBUS.

The first omnibus, then, has, with infinite struggling, got through Temple Bar; and now for the next—to wit, the Education Bill. This is to be urged onwards immediately after Whitsuntide. Will that be put through? No doubt of it. Mr. Forster, our able Vice-President of the Council, will have, as he hitherto has had, the charge of it; and a better man for the work could not be selected. He has knowledge, skill, patience, perseverance, and an imperturbable temper and conciliatory manners. Then he will have always his chief at his back, ever ready, when need shall be, to step to the front. The bill has been amended since it was last discussed. Concessions have been made to the gentlemen below the gangway, and it is believed in the House that, under pressure, the Government will make further concessions. The amendments alluded to were laid upon the table on Thursday in last week. They were then in MS.; but busy pens were promptly set to work to copy them, and for an hour or two the workers of the telegraph had enough to do to get them "wired" down to the provincial daily papers; but it was done, and on Tuesday morning, whilst the members were reading at their breakfast-tables these amendments, the subscribers to the morning papers in Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Dublin, &c., were also perusing them.

## MR. GOLDNEY.

We have in the House a member named Goldney. He represents Chippenham, a small borough in Wiltshire, where for some years he practised as a solicitor. This gentleman, who, by-the-way, is a Conservative, is scarcely known out of the House; but in the House he, soon after his election, in 1865, gained a very respectable position. He is not a party fighter. We do not remember that we ever saw him on his legs in a party struggle. He has not the talent, nor, we suspect, the fancy, for that sort of thing. He delights in less showy, but more useful, work: the quiet work of legislation proper, criticising and amending bills, and occasionally proposing bills of his own; and for this unostentatious work he is well fitted. He is acute, and not only can he see clearly himself, but he can show to others, through the medium of a simple, unadorned style of speaking, what he himself perceives, which is an excellent quality in a member of Parliament. In short, Mr. Goldney is a clever man and a good plain speaker; and when Disraeli, in 1866, was forming his Government, it struck us that it would be wise of him were he to secure the services of Mr. Goldney. He is incomparably an able man than some whom we could but will not name who were put into office. But Mr. Goldney, then, was but a year-old member, and, besides, Disraeli had amongst his older friends more aspirants to place than he could satisfy. So much for Mr. Goldney. We have sketched him because on Friday week he put himself at the head of his party and led them in a pitched battle with the Government forces. The cause of war was the claims of certain officers for the Kiriwee prize money. Did our readers ever hear before of this Kiriwee prize money? Probably not; we will, then, unfold to them the curious story.

## THE STORY OF THE KIRWEE BOUNTY.

Before the Indian mutiny there lived at Kiriwee, a fortified town some 150 miles from Delhi, a chief, whose name is not known to us. This chief was rich. He had a quarter of a million in bullion; and being a "cannie" man, instead of keeping this surplus cash in the vaults of his fortress, as his forefathers would have done, he lent it to the Indian Government on interest, and took from the said Government promissory notes as security. When the mutiny broke out, the chief, notwithstanding the hostages in shape of this loan which he had given, joined the rebellion; whereupon a detachment of the English Army had to march against Kiriwee, and take it. And a very capital day's work was this taking of Kiriwee; for they found there more than half a million of money, and this they appropriated and ultimately had distributed amongst them, the privates getting £50 a man. What the officers got did not come out in the debate; but it was something very handsome, no doubt. One would have thought this half a million would have satisfied these gentlemen. But, alas! greed is never satisfied. The more you feed it the hungrier it gets. These gentlemen had learned that the chief had that deposit of a quarter of a million in the hands of the Government; and, as they had suppressed the chief and taken his fort, they got it into their heads that they ought to have all his property, to the last stiver. This strange claim, however, when they made it, the Indian Government met with a resolute, emphatic "No! You did not take the money; you have not even taken those promissory-notes which represent it; you then can have no right to it. At all events, you must produce the notes before we can even consider your claim. For see what might happen if we were to pay you the money now! These notes may have been pawned to a third party, and may yet be presented; and in that case the Indian Government would have to pay them." There was infinite haggling about the claim; and at last, at the officers' request, the question was referred to the Treasury; and in due time this body met in solemn conclave, the First Lord presiding, and after long deliberation delivered their verdict, "No claim." But neither did this satisfy the unreasonable Colonels. They wanted to appeal to the Admiralty Court. But to this request the Treasury gave a flat negative. "Then," said the officers, "we will appeal to that redressor of grievances, the House of Commons." "Do," was the reply. And this, through Mr. Goldney, they did. They could not have got a better advocate. Mr. Goldney built up his clients' case very skilfully; and the structure for a time looked plausible. But it had no real foundation; and a few strokes from Mr. Stansfeld's logical battering-ram tumbled it into hopeless ruin.

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—The Hereford Musical Festival is fixed for Aug. 23 and three following days, and we understand that there is every prospect of its being one of the most successful yet given. The list of awards is not only a numerous but an influential one; and the programme of the performances will contain the highest standard works, including Spohr's "Last Judgment," which is too rarely heard at these musical gatherings. We may also mention that Mr. Barnby's sacred idyll, "Rebekah," recently so successfully produced at the "Oratorio Concerts," will be given at the evening performance in the cathedral. At the Birmingham Festival (which commences on Aug. 30 and continues until Sept. 2) Mr. Benedict's oratorio, "St. Peter," composed expressly for the occasion, will be performed; and a new cantata, by Dr. Ferdinand Hiller, called "Nala and Damayanti." Mr. J. F. Barnett's cantata, "Paradise and the Peri," and a new instrumental work by Mr. A. S. Sullivan will be also given for the first time; so that, in addition to the well-known works for the performance of which Birmingham has so long been celebrated, there will certainly be no want of interesting novelty.—*Musical Times.*

THE NEW POSTAGE-STAMP.—We understand that the Post-Office authorities have finally decided upon the form of the new halfpenny stamp, to be used for the transmission of newspapers through the post on and after Oct. 1. The stamp will be one third smaller than the present postage stamp, the head of her Majesty, as at present engraved on the stamp, to be reduced in a corresponding proportion. On each side of the head will be the figures "½d." in the place of the words "Postage one penny," now adopted. The stamp will be oblong, the horizontal sides being longer than the perpendicular, thus presenting to the eye a clear and well-defined difference between the halfpenny and the penny stamp. The colour selected has been light pink, that having been found, after many experiments, to be the most fugitive and the most easily affected by any attempts at tampering with it. The figures denoting the value of the stamp will be left white, and the ground will be filled up with engine-work, or light pink lines. The stamps will be printed on sheets of 480, representing 20s. worth. Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., who engraved and now print the present postage stamp, have received the order to engrave the new stamp, prepare the paper, and print 1,200,000 sheets of the new stamp, to be ready for delivery early in September. The preparation of the steel die will occupy about a fortnight. After this is completed it will have to be copied on to the rollers and steel plates from which the stamps are to be printed.—*Railway News.*

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 27.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

AFFAIRS IN CANADA.

The Earl of CARNARVON inquired whether, in the present state of affairs in Canada, the Colonial Secretary meant to persist in withdrawing the Imperial troops from the Dominion.

Earl GRANVILLE replied that the Fenian attack from St. Alban's had signally failed, and that the facts of the assault upon Huntingdon were not yet clearly known. He was happy to add that the Government of the United States had not only warned their people against any breach of the neutrality laws, but had captured the Fenian "General."

## ECCLIASTICAL TITLES.

Lord KIMBERLEY, in asking the House to give a second reading to the bill for Repealing the Ecclesiastical Titles Act, adduced as reasons for the measure that its only effect had been to create a good deal of unnecessary excitement in the first instance, and that it had been a dead letter from the commencement. The recent disestablishment of the Irish Church, moreover, supplied an additional and special reason for repealing the Act. He avowed that he was strongly opposed to the pretensions set forth in these days by the Papal Power; but he entertained no apprehension of any attempt by the Roman Catholic Church to assume a position here beyond that which it was at present permitted to hold.

Lord ST. LEONARDS opposed the bill, and moved as an amendment that it be read a second time that day six months.

Lord RUSSELL observed, that having regard to what was now passing at Rome, the present was not a favourable time for introducing a measure of this nature. The proper course would have been to restrict it to the abolition of pecuniary penalties for the assumption of titles so far as the Prelates of the disestablished Church in Ireland were concerned.

Lord CAIRNS pointed out that the bill did not deal with the section in the Relief Act of 1829 prohibiting the assumption of titles corresponding with those of dignitaries of the Established Church.

The LORD CHANCELLOR explained that whilst the bill did not recognise any authority to assume ecclesiastical titles formerly existing in Ireland, it would not inflict penalties upon persons who used titles not existing in the Established Church.

The Duke of RICHMOND said that the proposal, as it stood, would not carry out the objects to which, according to the Lord Chancellor's explanation, it was directed, and would therefore require considerable amendment.

Finally, the second reading was agreed to without a division; and, subsequently, the Bridgewater and Beverley Disfranchisement Bill was read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW WRIT.

A new writ was ordered to be issued for the election of a member for South Leicestershire, in the room of Viscount Curzon, called to the House of Peers as Earl Howe.

## FALSE WEIGHTS AND ADULTERATION.

Lord E. CECIL moved a resolution to the effect that the present state of the law as regards the use of false weights and measures and the prevention and punishing of adulteration of food, drink, and drugs, is most unsatisfactory, and demands the early attention of the Government. The noble Lord made a sweeping exposure of the illicit practices of various trades in the process of cheating their customers. To remedy these evils, he said, the law was powerless; and any measure to alleviate them now must be undertaken upon the responsibility of the Government, and should be compulsory, not permissive. It would not be worthy of Ministers to shirk the question, for it was one that affected the poorest and most helpless portion of the community.

Mr. T. HUGHES seconded the motion.

The HOME SECRETARY readily conceded that the law was in a most defective state. The question of weights and measures would be dealt with in the next Session of Parliament, in a bill founded upon the recommendations of the Standards Commission; and as to the other portion of the question, relating to the adulteration of food, drink, and drugs, without pledging himself to produce a measure on a subject which he had not yet sufficiently considered, he promised to give his best attention to it, with the conviction that it was the duty of the Government to do its utmost to alleviate the evil.

An interesting debate was concluded by Lord E. Cecil accepting the assurances of Mr. Bruce, and the motion was therefore withdrawn.

## MONDAY, MAY 30.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House received the Irish Land Bill from the Commons, and, after reading it the first time, fixed the next stage for Tuesday, June 14.

Lord Cairns and Lord Westbury strongly protested against proceeding further with the High Court of Judicature Bill during the present Session. The measure, however, went through Committee.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

COPYRIGHT WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. OTWAY informed Mr. Maclellan that negotiations were pending with the United States of America for the conclusion of an international copyright treaty.

## THE IRISH LAND BILL.

Mr. GLADSTONE having moved the third reading of the Irish Land Bill, Mr. HARDY, who, claiming for his party the credit of not having offered any factious opposition to the measure, remarked that although it had been amended, and was better now than when it was introduced, it nevertheless still contained principles to which he and his political friends objected, and he trusted, and was sure, that these would be carefully considered and amended "elsewhere." The points to which he chiefly alluded were connected with the question of compensation, the encouragement of unnecessary litigation, and the injustice inflicted upon the landlords. At the same time he would not oppose the third reading; because he should be sorry if there were no legislation upon the subject.

After some observations by Mr. Maguire and Sir F. Heygate, Mr. GLADSTONE, noticing the "situation" in which the question now stood, declared that any alteration of the principle of the bill in the sense indicated by Mr. Hardy would, in the view of Ministers, deprive it of all its force and value; whereas if it came into operation in the form that it was leaving the House, it would do so without creating a shock to any interest in Ireland. The House of Commons had spent half a Session in maturing the measure, and great would be the responsibility of those who prevented the work attaining its desired consummation.

The discussion was continued by Captain Archdall, Sir J. Gray, Mr. Downing, Mr. H. Herbert, Mr. Murphy, and Dr. Brady, and was brought to a close by Mr. C. Fortescue. When the question was put by the Speaker, the third reading was agreed to without the utterance of a single "No!" and the bill, passed, amidst loud cheers from the Ministerial benches.

## EXCLUSION OF STRANGERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. HENLEY called attention to the recent exclusion of "strangers," including the representatives of the press, from the House while a debate was going on, and expressed a strong opinion as to the inexpediency of such an interference—especially at the instance of a single member—with the publicity of their proceedings.

Mr. GLADSTONE informed the House that the Government were not prepared to make any proposal upon this subject, but suggested that it might be desirable to appoint a Committee to examine it, as was done in 1849, when this power of exclusion was last exercised.

Mr. CHAUFURD explained the motives which actuated him in the adoption of the course which he pursued the other night.

## SUPPLY—NAVY ESTIMATES.

In Committee of Supply a series of attacks were made by Sir J. Elphinstone and Sir J. D. Hay upon the First Lord and the Secretary of the Admiralty, reflecting upon the new methods which they have introduced into the conduct of the business of that department. In the end the money was, as usual, voted without a division.

## TUESDAY, MAY 31.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR laid upon the table a bill to give effect to the new Lictionary. The Felony Bill, which abolishes forfeiture of lands and goods on conviction for felony, was read the second time; and the Norwich Voters Disfranchisement Bill, the Bridgewater and Beverley Disfranchisement Bill, and the Churchwardens' Liability Bill were severally passed through Committee.

At seven o'clock their Lordships adjourned until Monday, the 13th inst.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House had an early sitting, which was chiefly occupied with an ineffectual attempt to get into Committee of Supply.

Mr. CORRY repeated the attack upon the system of purchase recently adopted by the Admiralty.

Mr. BAXTER met the attack with a complete exposition of the faults of the previous method of obtaining stores, and an explanation of the advantages which are anticipated from the new plan.

Mr. CAWLEY moved the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire respecting the increased cost of the extension works at Chatham and Portsmouth Dockyards, and the circumstances which had led to the disposal of Deptford Dockyard for an amount below the value stated in the stock valuation account.

Mr. BAXTER offered explanations on behalf of his department. With reference to the sale of the land at Deptford, he stated that when it was expected the Corporation of London would purchase it for the waterside cattle market, the highest price placed upon the site was £30,000; but when



the Admiralty advertised it for sale by tender the offers varied from £45,000 to £60,000, and ultimately it had been disposed of to a person of the name of Austin for £71,800.

Sir J. PARKINGTON remarked that the opinion generally prevailed that the property had been parted with for a sum much below its value; and that therefore the Government, in justice to themselves, ought to submit the matter to the test of inquiry by a Committee.

Inquiry was also supported by Mr. Samuda and Mr. F. Stanley, and resisted by Mr. Trevelyan.

The motion, pressed to a division, was negatived by 142 to 83.

At seven o'clock the sitting was suspended.

The House, on reassembling, passed the Benefices Bill through its final stage; and then resolved itself into Committee of Supply, and proceeded with the consideration of the Naval Estimates and the vote for stores.



### THE PUBLICITY OF DEBATES.

It is not easy to conceive a greater and more striking change than that which the extension of the power of the press has created in the ancient relations of the House of Commons and the people. It is not too much to say that without the Reporters' Gallery, to keep up an incessant rapport between the members and the nation, that body would be practically shorn of its representative character. Nor can it be denied that it was peculiarly unfortunate that "strangers" should have been turned out of the House upon the occasion of its discussing a measure of stringent police, which has evoked very strong feelings on both sides, and which is avowedly only an instalment of the intentions of its promoters. To the measure itself we shall not refer; but in the printed criticisms two things appear to us to have been overlooked in the conduct of Mr. Craufurd.

Our readers know that, according to an old tradition of the House, if a member mentions the fact that strangers are present, the strangers must withdraw; no direct action of the House itself, as a body, being necessary for the purpose of excluding them. Now, granting, as grant we must, that there may be occasions of great national stress (as in times of war) when secrecy would be essential to the success of the national councils, it yet remains to be said that by-ways are both undignified and liable to work amiss. It is a general rule that what can be done directly should not be done indirectly; and certainly it is not desirable that any single member out of so many hundreds should wield the power which Mr. Craufurd put to such a questionable use the other night. We are sorry to observe that Mr. Gladstone does not see this; but he is an educable person, and we hope some one will try to quicken his vision in the matter. It is a little odd to hear that fine old Tory gentleman Mr. Henley taking the side of common sense against Mr. Gladstone,—who does duty in the service of a tradition which has, by the lapse of time, lost whatever meaning it once had.

But what strikes one with the greatest force is that Mr. Craufurd does not appear to have the remotest notion that he did a thing which could not be defended in the highest court of morals. His individual opinion was that certain matters should not go forth from the debate into print the next morning. Now this may have been ever so right; and certainly his feeling on the question of publicity generally in such topics was one with which we have every sympathy. But Mr. Craufurd was only one. The feeling of the House was almost unanimously against him; it found exponents like Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Henley; and we are told that the reporters were cheered upon their readmission. Now, does Mr. Craufurd think that upon an open question it was honourable, either as regards his fellow-members or the public, to carry his own opinion over the heads of men like Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Henley, and nearly all the House of Commons, by this indirect method? There is nothing in which a man more distinctly shows the ultimate quality of his moral sensibilities than his way of trying to get his views enforced upon points of wide difference. It would be committing a breach of privilege to affirm that Mr. Craufurd was guilty, in taking this step, of a dishonourable action, but we do not hesitate to say that if any member of an ordinary board or committee had done something parallel in order to give effect to his own view in some matter upon which any considerable number of his colleagues differed from him, he would be voted ungentlemanly. We use a mild word; but the truth is, that to carry a disputed point of morals by a side-wind is against the highest laws of conscience. The reasons are obvious. No one man has a right to enforce any special moral conviction of his own against any number of men who bona fide disagree with him. The only just course is to use persuasion, and take the votes as well as you can. Now, Mr. Craufurd as truly put on the screw in the case in question as if, being the captain of a ship, he had by a surprise of the sword got half his crew gagged and put under hatches simply because he thought it would do them good. Suppose a man had written a book which Mr. Craufurd did not approve of, and was anxious to have put out of sight. Suppose a very large number of people thought the book should be circulated. Suppose, again, that by the application of some rarely-disinterred rule of Stationers' Hall he could prevent the circulation of the book. Does Mr. Craufurd think that he would be right in doing so? If he does, we do not. It is an axiom of conscience that moral ends upon open questions should be attained by moral means and no others, and we are deeply sorry—though not surprised—to find that a man who shows so much delicacy of apprehension in one direction

should exhibit so very little in another. After this escapade of his, it is not to Mr. Craufurd that we should go for a decision on a question of the higher morality if we wanted one.

### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY was officially celebrated last Saturday. There was the customary parade of the household troops, flags were hoisted from the public buildings, joy-bells were rung, many of the ships in the river were dressed from stem to stern, the leading members of the Government gave state banquets, and the West-End was gay with the usual illuminations.

THE PRINCE OF WALES held a Levée at St. James's Palace, on Monday, on behalf of her Majesty. About 200 presentations were made. His Royal Highness has again taken Cooper's-hill House, Englefield-green, for the Ascot race week, and will probably attend the races in the usual royal state.

COUNT BEUST has just sustained a severe domestic affliction. Young Count Frederick, his son, who was attached, as naval officer, to the Austrian Asiatic Expedition, has died at Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands, of malignant fever, at the age of twenty-six.

DR. DURNFORD, the new Bishop of Chichester, was, on Tuesday, enthroned in the cathedral of his diocese, in the presence of a large number of clergy and laity, and with the usual formalities.

THE REV. DR. NORMAN MACLEOD preached before the Queen, on Sunday, in the parish church of Crathie. Earl De Grey and Dr. Macleod dined with her Majesty in the evening.

MR. GLADSTONE, it is stated, has consented to recommend the grant of a pension of £100 per annum to the widow of Mr. Dargan, the Dublin Exhibition contractor.

A STATE BALL will be given at Buckingham Palace on the 21st inst., a breakfast at Windsor Castle on the 24th, and a concert at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, the 29th.

BARON HUGHES has dismissed the petition against the return of Mr. Heron for Tipperary; the petitioners to pay costs.

MRS. WALKER, of Norton, mother of Mrs. Childers, died at the Admiralty on Sunday last.

THREE MISSIONARIES have been captured by the Ashantees and carried into the interior of Africa.

TOLLYMORE PARK, the residence of the Earl of Roden, is likely to be purchased, according to the Belfast newspapers, as a residence for the Prince of Wales.

THE DERRY MEMORIAL STATUE FUND is being subscribed to not only by the late noble Earl's political followers, but by many who entertain different political views. Many of the great City companies have already subscribed, and the Marquis of Westminster has notified his intention of subscribing £50.

THE ELECTION FOR EAST SUFFOLK terminated, on Monday evening, in favour of Viscount Mahon, the Conservative candidate. The numbers at the close were—Lord Mahon (C), 3456; Sir Shafto Adair (L), 3285; majority, 171.

NO NEWSPAPERS, book packets, or packets of patterns, addressed to Victoria will, until further notice, be forwarded by the route of San Francisco and New Zealand.

MR. BARON BRAMWELL has decided against the petitioner in the matter of the Bristol election on all the points except one—whether treating at the test ballot invalidates the election. This is reserved as a special case for the consideration of the Court of Common Pleas.

BARON KESWICK CHUNDER SEN lectured before a large audience, at St. James's Hall, last Saturday evening, on "Christ and Christianity," dwelling on the difference between the Christianity of the Bible and the Christianity of the sects.

THE STRIKE AT THE NUNNERY COLLIERIES, NEAR SHEFFIELD, has been settled by arrangement between the men and Mr. Huntsman, the proprietor. The extra penny asked by the men has been conceded, and the appointment of a check weighman agreed to on both sides.

SMALLPOX was more fatal last week in London than in any week since the beginning of 1868. Nineteen fatal cases were registered, twelve of them in the smallpox hospital, nearly all these latter occurring to unvaccinated children or adults.

LYDIA THOMPSON AND MR. HENDERSON have been fined at Chicago 200 dollars, each (£40) for their assault on Mr. Story, the editor of the Chicago Times.

M. CERNUSCHI, the Italian banker, who was recently expelled from French territory for subscribing 100,000*fr.* to the Anti-Slavery Fund, has received permission to return to France.

A RAILWAY NAVY was found, on Sunday morning, dying by the Ross police. The supposed murderer was afterwards discovered in a closet, his clothes, hands, and boots being covered with blood.

THE REVIEW OF METROPOLITAN VOLUNTEER CORPS, which was fixed to be held on Tooting-common, on Monday next, under the command of Lord Truro, is postponed. No cause has yet been assigned for the postponement, but it is stated that notice will at once be given when another day has been decided upon.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT-RACES AT CAMBRIDGE, on Tuesday evening, were of a somewhat sensational character. In the second division races, at the start, second Trinity drifted across the stream and fouled a barge, and on attempting to get away from third Trinity the boat capsized, and all the crew were thrown into the water, but were able to swim to the shore.

THREE YOUNG LADIES have been admitted as students in the Vienna University, and one in the philosophical faculty in the University of Prague. It is stated that these ladies have already passed several of the ordinary University examinations with credit.

AN ANGO-SPANISH MATCH FOR £500 A SIDE will be rowed in September, on the Lachine River, over a course six miles long. The articles sent out some time ago by James Renforth, stroke-oar of the champion four-oared crew of England, have been substantially accepted by the crew of St. John's, New Brunswick.

MISS BRACKENBURY, of Brighton, has made two handsome gifts to the Manchester Grammar School. She has given a donation of £1000 towards the completion of the new buildings, and a further sum of £4000 for the foundation of three exhibitions or scholarships to Balliol College, Oxford, to be held for three years, for the best scholar of the year in classics, mathematics, or physical science.

THE IRISH LAND TENURE BILL occupied twenty-three sittings of the House of Commons. The Church Disestablishment Bill was disposed of in nineteen sittings. The date fixed for the second reading in the Lords—June 14—is the same as that at which the Church Bill entered on a similar stage last year.

THE SYSTEMATIC IMPORTATION OF LABOUR from the east of London to Middlesbrough, which has now been going on for several weeks, has been attended with such excellent results that it is to be continued for some time. Constant employment in the iron-ore mines and in the shipyards on the Tees has been found for a large number of migrating East-Enders.

THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH has decided that the public have an uninterrupted right of footway along the riverside between Greenwich and Chislin; and that Messrs. Bessemer and Maudesley, whose premises abut upon the river wall, are not authorised in obstructing the passage of the public.

A COLLIER working for Newton, Chambers, and Co., at Thorncliffe, was, on Tuesday, summoned at the Sheffield Townhall for absenting himself from work. The evidence showed that the man's life and property were threatened by the unionists on strike if he went to work, a number of them having, on Sunday last, surrounded his house with that intention. The Bench therefore declined to convict.

MR. COOK, a gentleman residing at Horsfield, near Bristol, dropped dead suddenly, on Wednesday, from heart disease. Mr. Pierce, a neighbour, was summoned with a view to render him assistance, if possible. Mr. Pierce, however, was so intensely shocked at becoming acquainted with the fact of his friend's death, that he himself suddenly expired.

MR. CLARE SEWELL READ, M.P., presided, last Saturday, over a crowded and excited meeting of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture. The subject for discussion was the game laws. The feeling of the meeting was against the over-preservation of ground game, and it was resolved that hares as well as rabbits ought to cease to come within the meaning of the game laws; that the owner and occupier of the soil should have a joint right to kill hares and rabbits; and that, when hares and rabbits were once struck out of the game laws, a stringent trespass law would be required.

SARAH REDHEAD, the wife of a seaman now on his way home from China, and living at 80, Sidney-street, Stepney, was on Monday shot dead by her stepson, eighteen years of age, and a member of the 7th Tower Hamlets Rifle. Disgrace at his father's second marriage is said to have been the moving cause of the crime. Young Redhead almost immediately surrendered to the police, and was afterwards taken before a magistrate and committed for trial on the capital charge.

A PRIVATE AND PRELIMINARY MEETING was held at Edinburgh, on Monday afternoon, to inaugurate a movement for a national memorial to Sir James Simpson. The Earl of Dalhousie presided. The speakers were the Lord Provost, the Principal of the University, the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, the Master of the Merchant Company, Sir William Gibson Craig, Sir George Harvey, the Rev. Provost Casanova, Dr. Alexander Wood, and Dr. Andrew Wood. Resolutions were unanimously and cordially adopted, and an influential committee was appointed.

### WORK FOR POOR SEMPSTRESSES.

IN these days of sewing-machines, when the art of advertising has reached such perfection that an elaborate puff of a mechanical contrivance or a patent medicine takes the form of a story and appears amongst the regular literature of some of our magazines, the art of the sempstress is likely to be superseded, and needlework to be deposited from the list of feminine accomplishments. It is true that fancy stitch and plain sewing still hold a place in the teaching at some old-fashioned schools, and that various ornamental trifles in "guipure" or "insertion," or some other wonderful thread combinations, are to be seen at "fancy fairs" or on the chairbacks and whatnots of peculiarly feminine drawing-rooms; but we no longer hear of those performances which distinguished the leisure of our grandmothers—elaborate pieces of patient work to be cited in evidence of careful training in the higher branches of housewifery.

It becomes a question, too, whether the sempstress or the dressmaker will long retain any individual relation to the customer if we are to go on in our present direction. The "young person" is becoming extinct—the young person who formerly went out to work for the day on those occasions when the breakfast-room was a bluebeard-chamber to the junior members of the family and the older female branches sat amidst billows of muslin and waves of glazed lining, and meals were taken in gipsy fashion, with imminent risk of thread in the tea and stray pins in the sugar. In some country towns these diurnal dressmakers may still linger to eke out a genteel subsistence, but in London it is matter of complaint with middle-aged matrons that a respectable young person who will go out sewing for the day is difficult to find. The fact is that they have been abolished by machinery, and have been compelled either to obtain a sewing-engine of their own or to fall into that lower poverty-stricken rank of slopworkers and ordinary sempstresses whomake so large a return in the recorded number of applicants at night-refuges and charities for the relief of the sick and the destitute. In some neighbourhoods attempts have been made to assist this large and suffering class of women by organising sewing associations and providing plain work, for which a regular scale of payment is made; but there is still the difficulty of competition with the machine; and, unless ladies can be induced to take a permanent interest in the movement and to send their needlework to the sempstresses, very little will be effected by it. In fact, it is now a very common method of relief to a widow or a poor woman in distress to subscribe to buy her a sewing-machine, which is a step more genteel than the mangle, which was formerly the more ordinary expression of sympathetic aid. In connection with some of the "missions" in the poorest quarters of London sewing-classes are formed, and the ladies connected with them send sufficient work to employ a portion of the time of poor women; but these are not composed exclusively of sempstresses; they are, many of them, also classes for teaching women to sew. The real relief of the poor dressmakers and sempstresses is only likely to be effected either by a closer organisation by a society of ladies, who will pledge themselves to become employers, or by the united action of individual dress-makers, each of whom will give out her own work to some stated dressmaker, who may be a member of the association, by registering her name, place of abode, and references. Such a plan might work well, and would have the advantage of not disturbing the ordinary relations of employers and employed, while it would enable many young ladies to become instrumental in the relief of poverty without adopting any particular garb or connecting themselves with any exclusive or inclusive organisation of charity. They might, in short, be sisters of mercy in fact, if not in name; and their dressing in fashionable attire instead of in conventional weeds would be rather consistent with the particular office they had undertaken in connection with relieving the wants of poor needlewomen, by finding them remunerative work. In Paris the fashionable world has gone beyond the dressmaker altogether. Men-milliners and bearded modistes receive the orders of high-born dames, and measure their customers with the utmost sang-froid. This, however, is not an advance, it is a retrogression; for in that most interesting of old gossip, the "Spectator," we find complaints of the same practice having been introduced from France to England a century and a half ago. When the reformation in morals and manners abolished men-dressmakers and the custom of the morning levée went out, so that ladies no longer received visitors at the toilette, the dressmaker took her place again even in France. Indeed, the sempstress is still a recognised tradeswoman with the true old-blooded aristocracy. The charitable associations in France are carried on in some such way as we have indicated, and our illustration conveys pretty accurately the method adopted by many a fair *ingenue* for taking work to some trusted needlewoman, whose bare room on the fifth story is brightened now and then by the visit of that young patroness, followed, of course, by the sedate and respectable servitor whose duty it may be to see that no poisonous billet-doux lurks, serpent-like, between the folds of lace and muslin which it is his duty to carry up that interminable staircase.

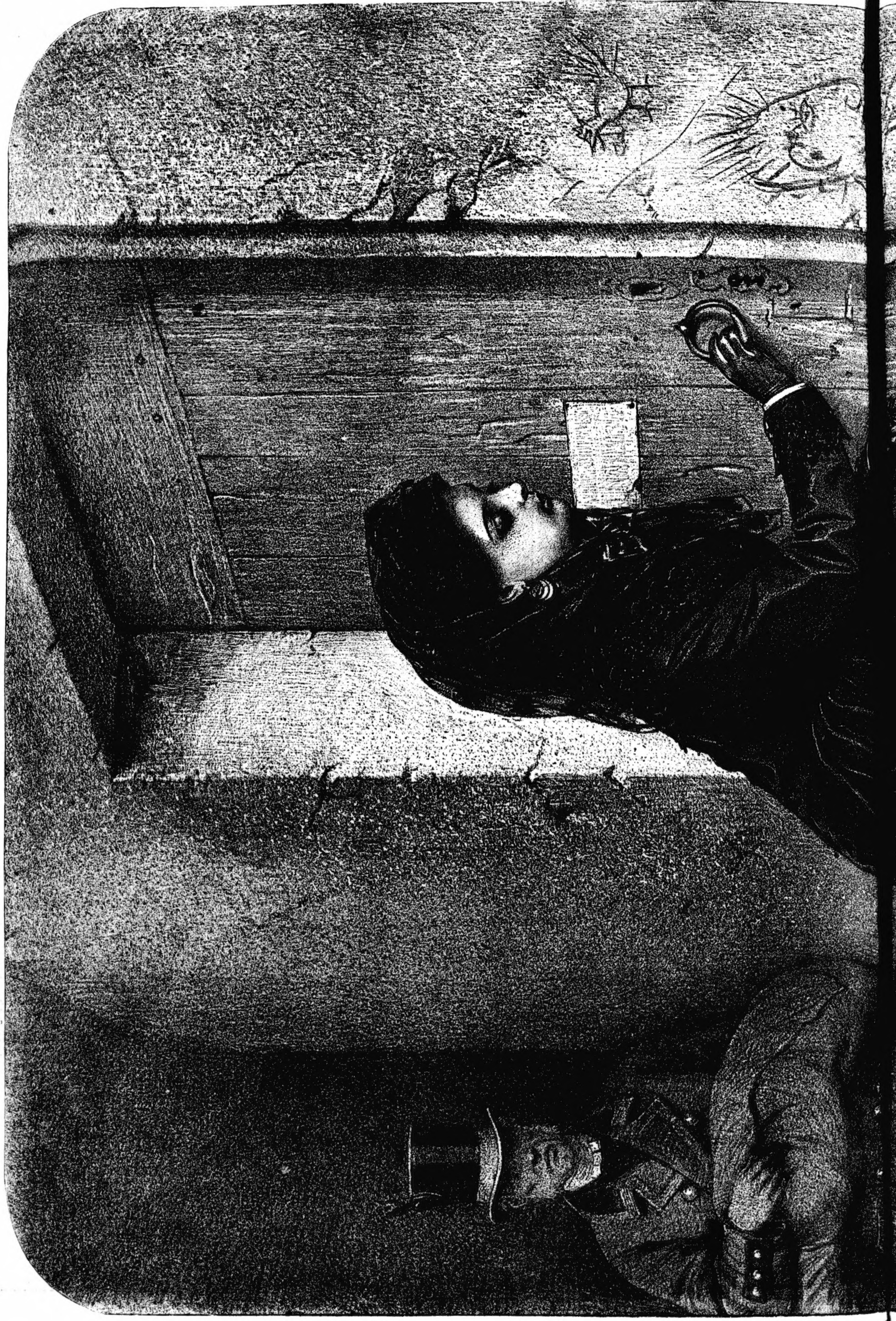
FIVE MEN WERE DROWNED, on Sunday evening, at Cromane Point, in Dingle Bay, on the west coast of Kerry. They were salmon fishermen, and left for the banks in a state of intoxication. Six men were in the boat; they began fighting among themselves, and the boat capsized. Only one got to the bank; the other five were drowned.

SAD ACCIDENT IN RICHMOND PARK.—Last Saturday evening, as a party of six gentlemen were taking a drive through Richmond Park, in a drag drawn by four horses, one of the leaders took fright, kicked against a tree, and twisted right round towards the drag, which was overturned with much force. All the gentlemen were thrown out, and were more or less injured. One who had fractured his leg, and another who was less seriously injured, were taken to the Castle Hotel. Another, who had received a severe fracture of the skull, was taken to the Richmond Infirmary, where he still lies in a very dangerous state. The gentleman suffering from fracture of the skull is Mr. G. Hodder, who is well known in literary circles; the one who broke his leg is Mr. Allen, also a literary gentleman. Mr. Beales is the name of the other gentleman who was taken to the castle. The drag was driven by Captain Haworth, who, although injured, returned to town the same night. Captain Haworth's son was also in the vehicle.

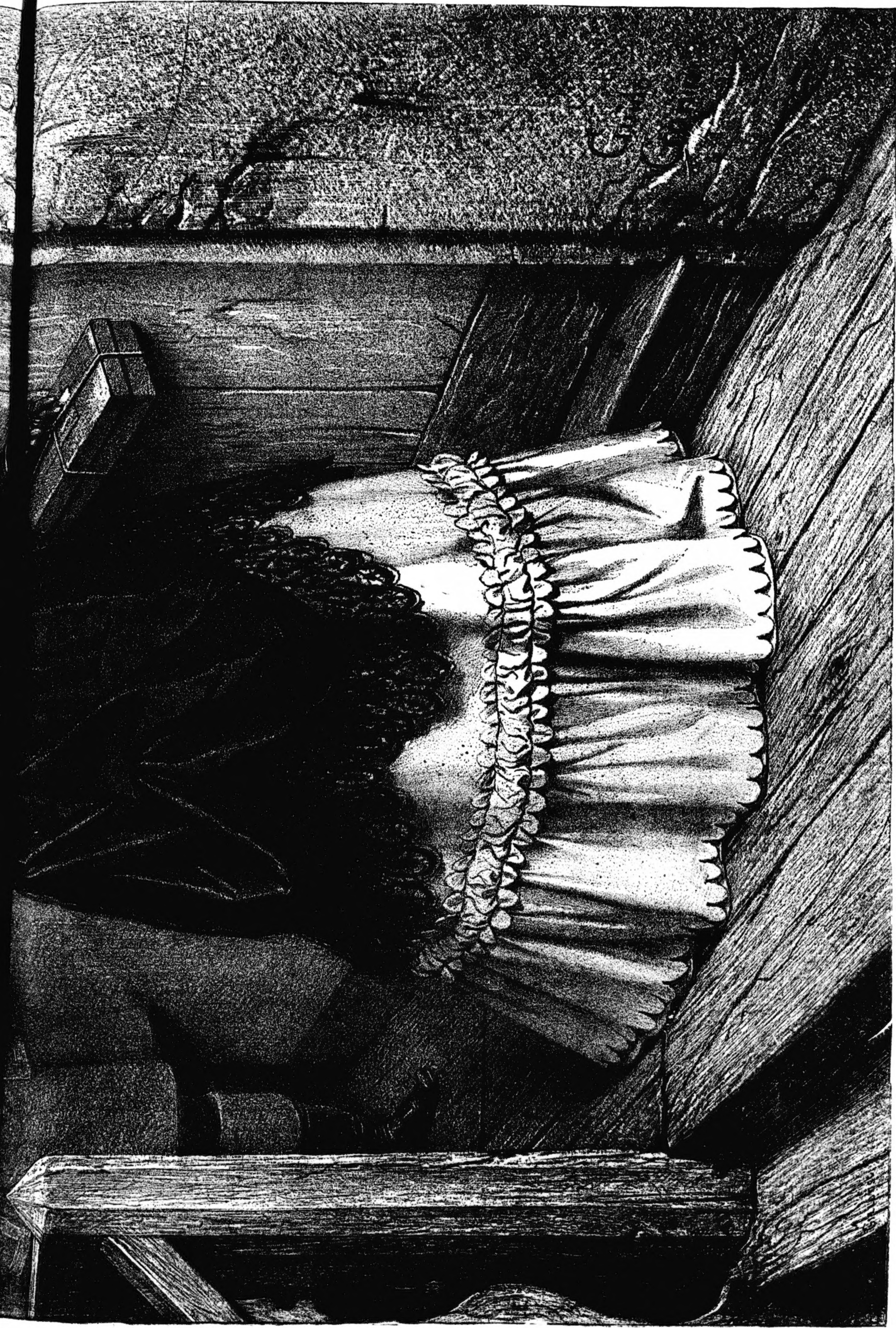
STATUE OF LORD PALMERSTON IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—On Tuesday afternoon an interesting ceremony occurred in the Abbey. The statue of Lord Palmerston, which had been erected for some days past in the position allotted to it in the north transept, was unveiled in the presence of Lord and Lady Shaftesbury, Lord Granville, Sir George Grey, Sir Robert Peel, Mr. and Mrs. William Cowper-Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Hippisley, Mr. Arthur Kinnsaid, and the Dean of Westminster. The monument stands immediately above Lord Palmerston's grave, and faces the monument of his master in statesmanship, George Canning. The figure, which has been executed by Mr. Jackson, was thought by those present extremely successful both in likeness and in position. The veteran statesman is represented in the robes of the Garter, and as standing in a meditative attitude. There would probably have been a larger attendance of Lord Palmerston's friends and colleagues, but it was felt desirable to secure the uncovering of the statue before the Whitsuntide holidays, when it would have been a disappointment to the thousands who then frequent the Abbey to have found it still concealed.

SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—The annual meeting of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals took place last Saturday, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of the Earl of Harrowby. Among the speakers was Sir Edwin Landseer, who spoke of the "cropping" case in which he gave evidence some time ago at the Hammer-smith Police Court. He said that, in connection with that case, one of the proudest moments of his life occurred to him one day when he was coming down Regent-street. He noticed a man with two handsome pups under his arm. The man looked and winked at him. He said to the man, "These are not bad animals." The man replied, "They can't be matched." He said, "They are not cropped." The man replied, "Landseer says they ought not to be cropped." He (Sir Edwin Landseer) was exceedingly flattered by this. He felt that he had been the means of doing something towards carrying out the objects of the society. Sir Edwin said he thought the society might with advantage pay attention to the cruelty which butchers practised towards calves. There was nothing more atrocious than this, and the only object was to give a fair complexion to the veal. The Bishop of Gloucester, Bishop Ryan, and Sir W. Erie also addressed the meeting, and over one hundred prizes of books, given by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin and Messrs. Routledge and Co., were distributed to children who had written essays on the duty of kindness towards animals.









CARRYING WORK TO POOR SEMPSTRESSES.



## THE LOUNGER.

THREE months ago we learned that Mr. Disraeli was unwell. He had a severe cold, Rumour said. Then we heard that his disease was bronchitis, but not serious; and this was confirmed by his reappearance in the House. He looked ill, but not more so than we might have expected. Two or three weeks' confinement to one's room alone would dim the eye and spread pallor over the cheeks; and so we hoped that the disease was gone, and that he would soon be himself again. This hope was strengthened when he made that speech on the Irish Land Bill, or was it on the Peace Preservation Bill?—I forget which; but no matter. He spoke well, and with much of his old vigour. Soon, however, hope began to give way to fear. He continued to appear in the House but fitfully, and he never sat there long; and at last he ceased to come. "Has he had a relapse?" one of his friends was asked. "Yes," was the reply; "but he is better, and will soon be here again." However, he did not come, and last week a Conservative paper startled us by an announcement that "Mr. Disraeli was able to walk out." This was not good, but bad news, for no one had heard that he had lately been too unwell to walk out. The truth is, he has been, and I fear is, seriously, though not dangerously, ill. What havoc death and disease have made in the House of Commons during the last two or three years! In 1868 the death of the old Marquis of Salisbury deprived us of Lord Cranborne. Last year the Earl of Derby's death removed Lord Stanley. This year disease has kept Mr. Bright away, and almost silenced Disraeli. Of our bright and particular stars we have only had Gladstone. Meanwhile no new star of first magnitude is discernible above the horizon. The last election brought in some capital workers, and several fair but no powerful speakers. It is a good House, but it is unquestionably dull.

Mr. Bullock's pictures fetched the astonishing sum of £14,000. "Why astonishing?" you may ask. "There was a very large number." Well, I was thinking of what they cost their late owner. I was told, on what I may call unquestionable authority, that they did not cost the late Mr. Bullock more than £8000. A capital speculation, then, it was to collect these pictures. Yes; and Rumour says it was a mere speculation—that is, it was not love of pictures that induced the proprietor to buy them, but hope of gain. He bought as a tradesman, not as a connoisseur or lover of art. There is another large collection in Birmingham or its neighbourhood which has been made with the same object, and will no doubt also prove a very capital speculation. It is not pleasant to see all this wealth, which ought to go to the artists, thus secured by mere speculators; but these traders have their uses. Young artists of promise, before their talents are recognised, are often hard up, and hence these speculators are, like "my uncle," useful though not admirable people. This is nothing new. It has always been so. Genius sows, cunning reaps.

There lie before my eyes the two portly volumes of Cobden's speeches, published under the auspices of the Cobden Club. What a capital idea this is—"a club established for the purpose of inculcating those political principles which are permanently identified with Richard Cobden's career"—the principles of free trade, financial reform, non-intervention, and consequent peace, &c. One thought came into my mind with great force as my eye wandered over the pages of these volumes. It was this. What a vast amount of good England and the world have gained from the labours of this truly great man; what a harvest has been reaped from this seed-field; and what a still further, and perhaps greater, harvest has yet to be reaped! Mr. Thorold Rogers has given us a short but excellent preface to these volumes. Allow me to present your readers with an extract describing Cobden's style of speaking:—"These speeches are not in any sense compositions. Cobden was, in the strictest meaning of the word, an extempore speaker. He pretended to neither rhetoric nor epigram, though the reader will find passages in these volumes the unaffected grace of which is as pleasing as the highest art, and illustrations which have all the force of the liveliest humour. But, as a rule, the speech is what Sir Robert Peel called it, 'unadorned.' The style is homely, conversational, familiar, and even garrulous; but it is always clear, and invariably suggests such a comprehension of the subject as gives the exposition all the force of a debate. So cogent and exhaustive was Cobden's reasoning that in almost every case they who attempted to resist the effect of his conclusions were constrained to betake themselves to some irrelevant issue or to awaken some prejudice against him."

One of the most attractive lounges of the week for those who were favoured with an invitation has been the conversation at the Institute of Civil Engineers in Great George-street. This great practical scientific assembly of the year is not, however, devoted entirely to the more dry details of engineering skill, the staircases and balconies of the institution are all a-bloom with beautiful plants and flowers, interesting models and mechanical toys relieve the grave examples of professional progress, and some of the choicest modern pictures from the galleries of past and present years are lent by their owners to decorate the walls, where they are seen to great advantage. The assembly on Tuesday evening, distinguished as it was by the presence of the principal men of science and leading engineers, was too crowded to be really a lounge; but on the following day it is usual to invite the ladies to a matinee, with a very elegant luncheon whereof they are desired to partake, and this is an admirable opportunity for seeing some of the most interesting processes in engineering science which have been produced during the past year. Among them, Sir, was one which I am sure would have attracted your attention as a connoisseur of pens, displaying the improved dies and machinery employed by Josiah Mason and Co., of Birmingham, for the manufacture of these indispensable tools of our trade. One of the new inventions, an anti-corrosive enamelled pen, of great size, freedom, and flexibility, is worth special notice. Some exquisite experiments, exhibiting the spectrum analysis; some very beautiful electrical apparatus, worked by the inductive coil battery, and all kinds of models of shipping, locomotives, armoured vessels, artillery, colliery machinery, and other kinds of engines, were exhibited; while among the pictures were some of the chef-d'œuvres of works of our great modern painters, including a Venice by Turner, which was, of course, the great attraction of the gallery.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

## THE MAGAZINES.

All the world is talking of the coarsely-insolent attack in *Blackwood* upon Mr. Disraeli's "Lothair." This precious article is not, indeed, full of personal indecencies of the kind that were current in the days of the Chaldee manuscript, and Wilson's malodorous parody of Campbell's "Battle of the Baltic;" but it is as virulent, as arrogant, as brutal, and as shamelessly false as any paper that ever was printed in that noisome periodical. I do not hesitate to say that nobody could possibly hold the opinions expressed in that article about the book in question; which is equal to affirming—and I do affirm—that it is a dishonest bit of abuse. It will do Mr. Disraeli no harm, however; and perhaps no man in England has been the object of more sincere felicitation during the past week than that gentleman. I cannot sincerely say I think the Tories owe him any gratitude, for he has fearfully and wonderfully sold them more than once; but it is safe to declare that a review written in 1870, in a vein of the coarsest abuse, taunting a man of genius of sixty-five with his Jewish origin (and worse than that, for the paper contains an innuendo which is too blasphemous to quote), and telling a pack of lies about a very brilliant book, will be condemned by all decent people as a public outrage.

Talking about reviews, a friend has handed me a *verbatim et literatim* copy of a letter which was once addressed by the editor of a book to the editor of a newspaper in which my friend had reviewed it. The book was, I am informed, a very bad one, accompanied by a photograph of the author, who has since been before the magistrates upon the charge of obtaining money under

false pretences; dropping in upon artists and levying subscriptions upon the pretence that he had influence with art-critics, and so on. Here is the letter, italics and all:—"Sir,—Look at the *Blank Newspaper* of to-day and see if the *unprincipled* ass you employed to review my Book is not a *stun* upon the name of *honesty and truth*, it was a great pity you could not find anything but an *abortion* to review my Book, out of more than one hundred notices there have been but four against me in each of these instances the reviewer proved by his remarks that he knew nothing of the subject he was writing upon, but your *dirty soul'd rascal* went further for he descended to *personalities and abuse*. If you have a spark of manhood about you, you'll bring me face to face with the dog who has *personally insulted* me. What an *abominable piece of hypocrisy* it is your *professing* to act fairly whilst you lend your columns to dangerous and vindictive unprincipled people. Yours &c."

*Tinsley's* has taken a new lease of life, apparently. Our Australian friend, the author of "Griff," commences in this number a fresh story, and the other contents are mostly good. But the poetry, as I have said before, wants looking after by somebody who understands that sort of thing. Now and then you get a nice bit of verse, but more usually very poor stuff. The editor evidently knows nothing about it. Nor are the essays of the present number up to the mark. The paper on "The Sadness of Modern Poetry" is written by a man of some reading who has his eyes open; but it does not hit the white. The poetry of an age cannot help reflecting the tendencies of that age; and Mr. Browning's poems were not intended for "nuts to crack after dinner." It is rather curious that it should not occur to a gentleman of so much intelligence as this writer (and I agree with a portion of his comments) that there he may have some inherent disqualification for criticising what Tennyson and Browning have to say about love matters. "Mr. Turner, I never see such reds and blues as yours in the sky." "No, Ma'am," growls the painter; "but don't you wish you could?"

In an article on "The Education of Girls of the Middle Classes," occurs the following passage, which is rather "advanced" for the *Leisure Hour*, in which the paper appears:—

A suggestion has been made, and advocated by men of high authority, both in literary and educational matters, that the opening to ladies of the Faculties of Arts in the existing universities would not only meet all our wants, but would be of great advantage to all the students. Public feeling, no doubt, is startled at the idea. Joint education of boys and girls, even of the better classes, is no novelty; several instances are mentioned in the commissioners' reports before us with much approbation. But it has hitherto been thought that it must stop as soon as they enter the higher division. It would be hard to say why. They meet in society, at church, and so forth, without any sense of incongruity, and it is hard to see why it should attach to meeting in a class room. This idea is as yet wholly in the region of experiment, but it is an experiment the issues of which may prove so valuable that it should be watched with the liveliest interest. Almost any feasible plan would work for good which should really dissipate the artificial atmosphere which hangs round the intercourse of young people of the middle classes. Among the poor, their work often brings them in contact. In the aristocratic circles there is no bifurcation of social existence. But in the middle classes, men and women (except near relations) rarely meet but in hours devoted to mere amusement. Let anyone recall what is the staple of conversation at parties, flower-shows, concerts, &c., and say whether this is the chief mode in which the two halves of the great middle class should influence each other. None of them know in what the other's real life consists. What chance is there of honest, frank, real friendships here? What chance is there of knowing each other's true character well enough to make steady and noble attachments possible?

All I shall say is, that I have known a great many matrimonial engagements broken off from the engaged couples living under one roof for a few months or weeks, and am strongly of opinion that the marriage-rate among the superior classes will continue to decline unless some means be found of making men and women better acquainted with each other before positive engagements are entered into.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I am quite unable to say what will ultimately be made of Mr. Charles Reade's drama called "Free Labour," lately produced at the ADELPHI. The play is, of course, taken from the novel "Put Yourself in His Place," which was noticed by my friend and neighbour, the "Literary Lounger," as it appeared month by month in the *Cornhill Magazine*. The first performance of Mr. Reade's play was merely a bad dress rehearsal, and I really have not the energy or the inclination to go two or three times to see a play before writing about it. Mr. H. J. Byron thinks it a great shame that critics should go and see a new play on the first night it is produced; but I beg leave to state that I consider myself one of the public, and think it is absolutely disgraceful that I should be told it is ready, when it is not the case. It is nothing to me that the stage could not be given up to Mr. Reade for rehearsals till a few days before "Free Labour" was produced. That is not my concern. All I know is, it was not a matter of life and death to produce "Free Labour" last Saturday; and all I can say is that last Saturday "Free Labour" was as tedious and wearisome a play as I have seen for a long time. It was an hour too long, to begin with. The actors were not perfect in their words, and in the very first scene Mr. Neville, senior, was at fault; the business was not properly arranged; there had evidently not been any rehearsal for the scene-shifters; and, instead of being delighted with new brooms at the Adelphi, I was suddenly reminded of the very worst and most careless Adelphi days. As I have hinted, it is really impossible to say what cutting and rehearsals will do for the drama. Mr. Henry Neville and a great sensation scene full of the vulgarst transpontine incidents were the only remarkable points on the first night. The drama contains close upon twenty scenes, which are liberally scattered over four long acts. It drags until the fight in Cairnhope Church, and it drags mercilessly afterwards. Mr. Reade has so much story to tell, and so many incidents to bring in, that there is little opportunity for his spirited dialogue, and he points his serious moral by means of incident rather than language. A little less incident and a little more talk would have been sincerely appreciated by the audience. Mr. Henry Neville fought and acted splendidly. Strange to say, in a very similar character he forgot "Bob Brierly," and played Henry Little as if he had never heard of "The Ticket-of-Leave Man." This is great praise, because I really began to think that Bob Brierly had taken such a firm hold on Mr. Neville that he would never shake off the old man of the sea. But because Mr. Neville has been all the way to Sheffield to learn how to work at a forge, I really do not see why he should overdo the audience with this forgework. It is a nice sight to see a muscular and well-made man shaping the red-hot iron and sending the sparks right and left; but, surely, we get a little too much of a good thing in "Free Labour." Mr. Reade evidently does not understand anything about acting, if he has purposely, and with his eyes open, brought so many incompetent people to London. Miss Rothertha Erskine is the best of the bunch, but she is raw and unpractised. Miss Margaret Young, who plays the heroine, is childishly weak, and as unlike Grace Carden, as I read her, as it is possible to be. Mr. John Chute and Mr. Richmond Kyrle are positively bad. I hope by this time the ghost scenes have been cut out bodily. The raising of the lid of the tomb is ludicrously suggestive of lifting the crust off a raised pie—indeed, there is a raised-pie make up about this Adelphi drama. If no alteration has been made in the new Adelphi drama since I saw it, I pity the poor audiences. Rehearsals, cutting, and posters may make it go.

Considering that Messrs. W. S. Gilbert and Fred Clay have given a pretty opera to a company which knows very little about such elegant trifles, and is hardly yet out of leading strings, they may, I think, congratulate themselves that "The Gentleman in Black" suffered so little at the CHARGING CROSS. Miss Emmeline Cole apart, no one appears to have much notion of music, and there is a certain want of confidence and lack of "go" about the young artists which might very well have been fatal to an experiment of the kind. But things may now be altered for the better. I am speaking again from first-night experience; and at the

Charging Cross I have once more to complain of a carelessly got-up and insufficiently rehearsed novelty. The operetta, both in a literary and musical sense, is unequal. The first act is far the best of the two. Mr. Gilbert is funniest in it, and Mr. Fred Clay is more melodious. Considering there are only two acts, Mr. Gilbert has overdone the book with incident; and, to tell the truth, the story is too involved for a trifle of the kind. Mr. Clay is less original than usual. It was difficult, no doubt, to write down to the slender capabilities of the company; but still the French opera-bouffé reminiscences are too startling not to be observed. Without Miss Cole I do not know what would have become of the musical legend. This lady has a fresh and pretty voice, and understands how to sing. Mr. Terrott is always "throaty" and disagreeable; and, though Miss Fowler and Mr. Danvers acted very fairly, they and Mr. Flockton make the audience shudder when they sing.

This evening a new comedy by Mr. Albery, called "The Two Roses," will be produced at the VAUDEVILLE. Miss A. Newton makes her first appearance at the theatre in it.

"Molière's Masterpiece," which is promised at the ADELPHI next week, is a version of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," which, by-the-by, is not Molière's masterpiece at all. The "Tartuffe" and the "Misanthrope" are both infinitely superior to it.

On Tuesday evening, June 16, Sir Charles L. Young and other distinguished amateur performers (gentlemen as well as ladies), assisted by Mrs. Hermann Vezin, will give a representation at St. George's Hall on behalf of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union. The pieces will consist of "A Thumping Legacy" and Lord Lytton's drama of "The Rightful Heir." The performance has the patronage of the Earl and Countess of Lichfield, Earl and Countess Ducie, Lord and Lady Lytton, Lord Wharncliffe, the Nawab Nazim, and others.

## THE LATE MR. CYRUS REDDING.

By the death of Mr. Cyrus Redding, which is just announced, the world of literature has lost one of its oldest members. He came of a Worcestershire family, and was born at Penryn, in Cornwall, in 1785, and consequently had just reached the patriarchal age of eighty-five. He commenced writing at the age of sixteen, his first production being an "Epitaph on Sir R. Abercromby," who was killed in Egypt in 1801. About that time he contributed various articles to the *Weekly Entertainer*, a periodical published at Sherborne, in Dorset, in the columns of which he also wrote the story of "Cephalus and Procris," which he versified from "Ovid." Coming to London in 1806, Mr. Redding joined the establishment of the *Pilot*, an evening newspaper, which he soon afterwards left, to commence the publication of the *Plymouth Chronicle*, of which he was editor and proprietor for several years. Between 1807 and 1813 he was a frequent contributor to the *Naval Chronicle*, a magazine published in London. In 1811 he wrote a series of letters on libel, addressed to Lord Holland; and in 1812 he published two works, each in one volume, entitled respectively "Retirement" and "Mount Edgumbe." In 1814 he established the *Dramatic Review*, a Warwickshire newspaper, and wrote extensively in the *Morning Chronicle* and *Examiner*, and also produced some spirited translations from Körner's "Lyre and Sword," Goethe's "Song of Mignon," and Mülner's "Die Schuld." After the Battle of Waterloo, in 1815, Mr. Redding went to France, and whilst at Rouen contributed "Notes on France and Normandy," as correspondent for the *Examiner*; he also about that time wrote his "Notes on Wines" for his "History of Wines," which he subsequently published. At Paris he wrote in the *Morning Chronicle*, against the *Times*, the "Defence of Portugal against Spain regarding Monte Video," the documents for which were supplied by the Comandante de Sodre, the Duke of Wellington's private Portuguese secretary. In 1816 he commenced an engagement as editor of *Galignani's Messenger*, which he continued to hold until the return of the army to England, in 1818.

In 1820 Mr. Redding succeeded Mr. Dubois, as co-editor, with Thomas Campbell, of the *New Monthly Magazine*, the poet and the humourist having quarrelled and separated after the appearance of the second number. The *New Monthly Magazine* was commenced about the year 1812, and was projected by the late Mr. Colburn as a rival to Sir Richard Phillips's *Monthly Magazine*. The enlarged and greatly-improved series, which commenced in 1820, was managed by Campbell and his coadjutor for upwards of ten years, during which time many stirring lyrics and able prose papers appeared in its pages from Mr. Redding's pen. Of the first thirty volumes of the *New Monthly Magazine* ten were supplied exclusively by Mr. Redding; in the other twenty he is said to have written 177 articles, and to have corrected the whole of the volumes for the press. The executive of the magazine was, indeed, left almost wholly in his hands; for Campbell, it is said, did little more than lend it his name and the contributions which bear it annexed. Of his connection with the author of "The Pleasures of Hope," Mr. Redding has given an account in a series of papers which have appeared in the *New Monthly Magazine* since the poet's death.

Among the many productions of Mr. Redding's pen which have appeared since the issue of the first edition of his "History of Wines," we may instance his "Life of William IV.," an "Itinerary of the County of Cornwall," and also an "Itinerary of Lancashire," beautifully illustrated; the "Wine Butler," which passed through three editions; a "Biographical Dictionary," supplement to Gorton; "Don Velasco," a novel, in three volumes; and a translation of M. Thiers's "History of the Consulate," with original notes. Mr. Redding also published, in three volumes, a record of his Reminiscences for more than half a century; a "History of Shipwrecks," in four volumes; memoirs of his friend "Thomas Campbell," and "The Life of William Beckford, of Fonthill," both in two volumes; also an "Abridgment and Remarks on the Evidence upon the Wine Duties;" a novel, in three volumes, entitled "Keeping up Appearances;" and another, published in 1863, entitled "To-day and Yesterday." He edited—or, rather, wrote from notes—"The Travels of Captain Andrews in South America," in two volumes; and "Pandurang Hari," an Eastern story, in three volumes. One of Mr. Redding's latest works is "A Departmental and Statistical Account of the Wine Products of France." In all, about forty volumes bear his name. Mr. Redding also contributed the article "Wine" to the *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*; the "Chemistry of Wine" to "Musparr's Chemical Dictionary;" "Lives of the Poets" to most of Galignani's Parisian editions; "Labour and its Duties;" besides articles on wine in the *Athenæum* and other periodicals, between 1830 and 1840; and articles in the *Old Monthly*, *London*, *Fraser*, and *New Monthly*—the latter since 1840. He has also been a frequent contributor to the *Weekly Review*, the *Foreign Review*, and to the best of our recent periodical literature.

Mr. Redding has plied his pen actively during considerably more than half a century, and he probably wrote more than any of his contemporaries. He was personally acquainted with Lewis, Walcott, Topham, Sheridan, Canning, Scott, Wilson, Hogg, Moore, Campbell, Sismondi, Schlegel, Cuvier, Lockhart, Shelley, De Stael, Beckford, Adam Czartorisky, Santa Rosa, Langens, and many other distinguished men of his day.

A PEEP AT THE "TIMES OF OLD."—A few days since, as some workmen were digging in the ruins of Wigmore Castle, Herefordshire (in early days the property and residence of the Mortimer family), they came upon the solid masonry of an arched roof, and, on removing one or two of the large stones, found a dungeon communicating with another of equal size, each about 15 ft. square, and covered with arched stone roofs. They were approached by means of stone staircases, which have been buried in the rubbish of the ruins for many years. In the stonework of the side walls were imbedded large, strong iron staples, supposed to have been used for securing prisoners during the civil wars. The dungeons contained a few bones in a very decayed state, and some lead rolled up. Hundreds of persons from Hereford, Leominster, and the surrounding neighbourhood have visited these interesting remains of former ages.



## THE DERBY DAY.

## THE HORSES.

The Derby of 1870 differed so materially from its predecessors that it had been gravely mooted even among racing men whether it would be worth the journey to see it. A supposed "accomplished fact" from the moment when Daley let Macgregor have his head coming out of the Abingdon Mile Bottom on that fatal day in May which scattered so many pretensions to the "dark one," and the "dark one" finished up the mile in such grand style, the interest flagged from that moment. There were still people who persistently clung to Sunshine as the hope of Mr. Merry's stable; but she began to show symptoms of decline at once, and when, on Tuesday afternoon, the pen was put through her, though a groan was wrung from her backers, but little cause was expressed. Mr. Merry's good fortune has been expressed. To possess a grand two-year-old like Sunshine, able to do everything she started for, save one race, and all that time to be a better (or a supposed better), and a "dark one" in the on which to fall back, and, moreover, to keep that latter "dark" as the horse, is not given to everyone. So very "dark," indeed, was it kept that it is stated the most intimate of Mr. Merry were in ignorance up to the Two Thousand what a treasure he possessed, and were all on Sunlight and Shine for that event and the Derby. The field promised to be small, and but fifteen runners were telegraphed—the smallest field we have seen for the last few years. The Paddock held its usual show, though we can hardly say it was a brilliant one. Of the Derby horses, Cymbal was among the first to show, and he was certainly about the best looking there, the cut of a Derby horse, with a fine top; and if it had not been for suspicious looks and cracked heels he would have been perfect. The next in good looks and fitness was Palmerston, whose muscle stood out on his thighs in great lumps. Sarsfield, a great slashing chestnut, fit to carry a fifteen-stone man to hounds; Bonny Swell, compact in look; Prince of Wales, lengthy and with a good deal of quality; Normanby and Camel, the former looking well and the latter half fit, were among those that came under our immediate notice. Kingcraft merely passed in at one gate and out at the other; but, from a glimpse we caught of him, he looked quite a different horse from what he did in the Two Thousand, when he was clearly overdone. A common-looking chestnut, entitled Cockney Boy, was quite out of place in such company; and Macgregor did not show, being saddled, as Beladrum was last year, at Sherwood's, where he was stable. Sarsfield was the first to emerge from the paddock, under the leadership of Martin Stirling, and he was followed by Bay Roland, Ely Appleton, Nobleman, Palmerston, Cymbal, Bonny Swell, Prince of Wales, Normanby, and King o' Scots, Kingcraft being straight to the post without cantering, and Macgregor doing the lot at the Corner.

## THE RACE.

The market exhibited some important changes at the last. The favourite was firm, and the unprecedented odds of 5 to 2 were laid on him. Camel's position fore-shadowed his actual one in the race, nearly at the tail of everything, and Prince of Wales took his place as second favourite at 11 to 1. There was no other material change, and the lot were given into the starter's charge about 3.20. After one failure they were dispatched, the colours of Palmerston, Macgregor, and Bonny Swell showing in front, the first-named making the running, and the favourite lying in the first three to the Corner. Kingcraft was in the rear of everything at the start, but the pace was so bad for the first half-mile that he was enabled to catch his horses going through the furzes. Macgregor maintained his position of waiting in front till, coming down the hill, Fordham was seen to be "riding" him, and when fairly down and approaching the Stand the hopes of his supporters were scattered to the winds. Palmerston still held the lead, and opposite the Stand a cry arose for Bonny Swell, who momentarily headed him; but he soon died away, and then French was seen shooting out on the low ground with Kingcraft, and, coming on hand over hand, he won, amid the loudest and most prolonged cheering we ever heard at Epsom, by four lengths. Lord Falmouth is so popular on the turf, and is so eminently a sportsman, that the cheers were taken up again and again as French with difficulty rode the winner back to scale. Mr. W. S. Crawford's Palmerston was second, and Lord Wilton's Muster third.

And so the greatest "certainty" of modern years has been overthrown, and the speedy horse whose forte by most judges was not considered staying has pretty well squandered his field. Macgregor was beaten when he began to descend the hill, where his upright pasterns told against him. According to the Middle Park running, if Mr. Merry had elected to stand on Sunshine he might yet have won the Derby. The time, taken by chronographs manufactured by Mr. M. F. Dent, of Cockspur-street, and by Mr. T. W. Benson, of Ludgate-hill, was 2 min. 45 sec. The King of the Belgians, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, Prince Teck, and their suite, witnessed the race from the Jockey Club Stand, where also the presence of a face never seen on a racecourse before—Mr. Gladstone's—excited as much attention as Royalty. The attendance, if anything, fell, we thought, a little below the standard, the hill certainly not being so crowded as we have seen it.

## THE RETURN HOME.

There is always a marked contrast in the manner and behaviour of the crowds who in the morning "go to the Derby" by the road and on their return "from the Derby" in the evening. In the morning all are good-humoured and cheerful, and, despite the great flow of "chaff," careful, as far as possible, to avoid accidents by coming into collision with each other's vehicle. The betting man and bookmaker, full of bright anticipations of "putting money in his purse," while the pure holiday-maker, caring but little for the "great event" in itself, is happy in the prospect of a "jolly" day out. In the evening, in the great majority of cases, all this is changed. Those who have backed or taken the odds against the winning horse are full of boisterous mirth, probably heightened and made mischievous by the libations they have swallowed during the day in honour of the winner, and careless as to whether accidents from collisions may happen to themselves or others; those, again, who return with empty pockets, and probably with liabilities they will find it difficult to meet, wear a subdued and sorrowful look, and are always ready to resent any "chaff" that may be directed against them; while others are tired and jaded with the excitement of the day, and thinking of the dresses spoilt or damaged by the dust or rain. These are the usual characteristics of the return home by road on the evening of the Derby Day, and were all to be observed on Wednesday night. Warned by the showers that fell shortly after the great race had been run, numbers of the more prudent and Paterfamilias class left the Downs at an early hour, and by six o'clock in the evening the road leading to the metropolis presented a goodly show of vehicles wending their way homewards. From seven until ten o'clock, especially on reaching Tooting, where the two roads leading from Epsom effect a junction, the thoroughfare from that place to Kennington-gate was densely thronged with vehicles, rendering locomotion with safety almost impossible. Between eight and nine o'clock the journey from Kennington-gate to the Elephant and Castle, about a mile of road, occupied upwards of an hour, so crowded was the road with vehicles of every conceivable description, including a large number of bicycles which had been ridden by their owners to Epsom and back. The "coster's cart," the trap of the "sporting pub," the neatly-appointed chaise of the well-to-do man, the light cart of the small tradesman; the wickerette, filled with "gents of the period," whose faces were discoloured by false noses and whiskers, and whose hats were ornamented with small wooden dolls; the four-horse van, loaded with working men and their families; the four-horse omnibus, filled inside and out with a miscellaneous collection of both sexes, of

all ages, accompanied by the irrepressible, broken-winded cornet-player, performing, after his fashion, "See the conquering hero come;" the open landau, with its "four greys" and its two postillions, and its occupants wearing the lightest of dresses, the smallest of bonnets, and the largest of chignons; the quiet, unpretending private brougham, and the "hansom," with its betting man or bookmaker inside, were all mixed up in an apparently inextricable mass. As usual on these occasions, the footways from Clapham-common to the Elephant and Castle were crowded with spectators. To add to the confusion and excitement, about nine o'clock three steam fire-engines came galloping down the Kennington Park-road, proceeding to a fire in the neighbourhood of Clapham. The shouting of the firemen to clear the way, the hissing of the steam, and the shower of sparks from the fires frightened the horses in several of the vehicles, and in consequence several collisions occurred, and half a dozen carriages were overturned, throwing their occupants into the muddy road, but, fortunately, no serious accident happened. Several of the spectators on the footway were also knocked down. As might be expected, the roughs and pickpockets of both sexes were in full force, and every now and then desperate rushes were made among the crowd for the purpose of robbery in the confusion that ensued; for although there was a large body of police stationed along the route, their attention was fully occupied in regulating the carriage traffic and preventing people from being run over through the reckless conduct of many of the drivers. Most of the public-houses along the Kennington Park-road and in Newington-butt were illuminated, with flags flying and bands playing, and every now and then a display of coloured fire or the lime-light occurred, the latter giving a most picturesque appearance to the road, lined as it was with carriages and people. The bakers' shops along the road did a large business in selling penny paper bags of flour, with which the roughs amused themselves by pelting any respectably-dressed occupants of the carriages within their reach. This gave rise to several fights, during which the pickpockets reaped a good harvest. After ten o'clock the carriage traffic began to slacken considerably and the spectators to disperse homewards. Up to that hour there had been no serious accident.

The Kennington-road, leading from Westminster-road to Kennington-gate, was closed against carriage traffic, owing to the sewerage work in progress, and this greatly added to the traffic in the Kennington Park-road. This road will also be closed on the Oaks Day.

## Literature.

*The Vicar of Bullhampton.* By ANTHONY TROLLOPE. Illustrated by H. Woods. London: Bradbury, Evans, and Co.

We always read Mr. Trollope's novels with pleasure, because they are always worth reading once at least, if not oftener; which is more than can be said of most novels nowadays. Not that we consider Mr. Trollope a model, much less a perfect, novel-writer; but because he always produces an interesting and pleasing story, sprinkled with faults it is true, but still pleasing and interesting. And his latest effort, "*The Vicar of Bullhampton*," is no exception to the general rule characteristic of the author's works. This novel, in short, is a very good novel; replete with all Mr. Trollope's usual excellencies of gentlemanly tone, easy-flowing narrative, well-sustained interest, and occasional success in delineation of character; but, withal, marked by defects which detract somewhat from the completeness of the performance, though not, perhaps, from the interest of the story. Ordinary novel readers will probably see no defects at all; and, did we not think Mr. Trollope entitled to the position in literature—a mean one—which he has won, we should be content to enjoy the pleasure his novels afford us, and neither look for nor speak of drawbacks. But Mr. Trollope's place in the republic of letters is too prominent for anything of his to be passed over with the cursory word of commendation which may well suffice for meaner men. His reputation, well won as it has been, invites, as it also enables him to bear, closer criticism. We have no fault to find with the construction of the story; Mr. Trollope rarely is deficient in that respect. Neither do we quarrel with the style; Mr. Trollope is too practised an artist to afford ground for cavil on that score, though we must add that "*The Vicar of Bullhampton*" here and there exhibits signs of haste or of the carelessness begotten of over-confidence. We do not at all see, for instance, why his characters should be constantly represented as "swearing" this and "swearing" that, when it is simply meant that they design to express themselves with emphasis, or that they have made strong resolutions. Even Parson Fenwick is not exempt from this habit of swearing, which, though not quite profane, is scarcely becoming in a clergyman, or in a young lady like Mary Lowther, for instance.

We said above that some of the characters in this work are well-drawn; and this applies particularly to the Rev. Frank Fenwick and to Old Jacob Brattle, the miller. Mr. Trollope, as all his readers know, is great in the delineation of parsons. One parson, at least, figures prominently in all his books, some of which, indeed, deal almost exclusively with parsons. Of this order of men he has evidently made a study, and we suppose the clergyman he depicts are genuine types of the cloth; and yet, as a rule, Mr. Trollope's parsons are not exactly what one fancies parsons ought to be. But the Rev. Mr. Fenwick is an exception; we do like him, and consider him decidedly the best parson Mr. Trollope has depicted; probably because he has about him very much more of the man and the gentleman than of the parson. As regards his female characters, we cannot consider Mr. Trollope so successful, at least with those of them with whom he seems to have taken most pains, and who, apparently, he expects us most to admire. Our author has evidently studied women much less closely than he has done clergymen; the result being that his leading female creations lack real womanly characteristics. There were those Kowley girls in "*He Knew He Was Right*," for example, who were evidently elaborated with great care, and were no doubt designed to be prepossessing; and who yet, by their self-willed obstinacy and petulant perversity of disposition, left upon the reader's mind a positive feeling of aversion. And now, here we have Mary Lowther—whose character, by-the-by, reminds us very much of that of the heroine in the "*Small House at Abington*"—always making a mighty fuss about doing right and continually doing something wrong; a good deal of a prude, and yet allowing her prudery to lead her into actions very much like those of a jilt; ever making a great parade of self-examination, and yet forcing one to the conclusion that she did not at any time quite know her own mind. We are bound to admit, however, that she is better than her rejected, accepted, and then rejected suitor, Mr. Gilmore, who is neither more nor less than a very respectable but "spoony muf."

One indication of the haste or carelessness referred to above is, that Mr. Trollope does not appear to be at all times fully acquainted with the personages of his own creation, and consequently blunders with their names and positions. Thus old Miss Murrable is generally spoken of as "Aunt Sarah," and yet occasionally crops up as "Aunt Mary," though we have no hint given us that she bore both names. Then Lord Trowbridge, though usually a Marquis, suddenly drops down on page 277 into a simple Earl. We did not know that the process known in the Army as "losing a stripe" was applicable to the Peerage; though perhaps the arrangement might have its advantages, in the estimation of some people at least, as, were the process of reduction in rank carried on far enough and fast enough, the Peerage might be reduced out of existence, and so the House of Lords be got rid of by a system of self-annihilation progression. However, sticklers for the dignity of the Peerage will be comforted when they turn over the leaf and find that Lord Trowbridge (though he richly deserved

degradation for being such a pompous ass) regains his honour and becomes a full-blown Marquis once more.

Mr. Trollope, in his preface, makes a sort of half-apology for introducing a person like Carry Brattle into polite society. The experiment was a bold one, considering the class of people among whom the author's books are probably most read; but we sincerely hope the object he had in view will justify the deed, and that Mr. Trollope's effort to make "respectable" people a little more considerate for those who are not, will not be altogether without result.

*Among My Books.* Six Essays. By JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, Professor of Belles Lettres in Harvard College. London: Macmillan and Co.

If you are a well-read person—which, of course, you are—and want a book to set your mind fermenting; or, if you are a writer of literary essays in periodicals and desire a volume that shall suggest a new topic every time you open it, by all means get this thick large octavo of Mr. Lowell's. It is not, indeed, in the high sense satisfactory; nothing written by Mr. Lowell ever was, except the "*Biglow Papers*," and perhaps twenty pages of his poems. There is not seldom a secondhand "note" about his thought; a too-muchness of matter, amounting sometimes to tedium; a jumble of the Carlyles and the newspapers in his style; and an arbitrary self-confidence in his judgment—qualities which, much as we admire him, and strongly as we wish to admire him without reserve, prevent his coming as near to us as we should like. There is, we all know and feel, something peculiarly irritating in intellectual products which are, as Browning says, so "all-but just-succeeding." Mr. Lowell has real poetry in him; he is a man of high and varied culture; his reading is immense and his memory always active; he has much moral pith, and plenty of humour; and as an essayist he ought, somehow, to give us deeper and more ending pleasure than he manages to do. Dryden, Wicraft, Lessing, Rousseau, Shakespeare, New England Two Hundred Years Ago—these are topics upon which it would be hard for a man of taste, reading, and feeling to be very dull; and Mr. Lowell is, of course, highly interesting upon them all. Perhaps we like best the paper upon Dryden; but one would have liked to see more resolute independence. Why should everything Shakespeare wrote be defended? Reverence for so great a man should make us touch remotely upon what seem clearly to be errors of judgment in him; but it is quite another thing deliberately to raise questions about his blemishes, and then contend that they are proofs of his superior insight. Most nations treat their sacred books upon this principle; but Mr. Lowell is not the man from whom we should expect to see it justified.

His treatment of what are called "plagiarisms" is quite unworthy of so well-read a man. He is greatly given to high-sounding nonsense—e.g., "It may be doubted whether any language be rich enough to maintain more than one truly great poet." It is strange that Mr. Lowell's sense of humour (of which indeed we see but little in this volume) should not have preserved him from pompous platitudes like this. In another place Mr. Lowell informs us that the "grovelling and sensual life of Coleridge" causes us to "feel something like disgust." This is scarcely "Parliamentary language," spoken of such a man as Coleridge, and is, in fact, quite unjust. But what fathom-deep nonsense is the sentence that follows! We are told that where, as in the case of his son Hartley, there is "hereditary infirmity" we only feel "pity." But why on earth was the "infirmity" of Hartley more "hereditary" than his father's? All infirmity is in some way hereditary. And if there was anything special (as there was) in Hartley's case, so there evidently was in his father's, as must surely strike anyone who knows the circumstances of his birth. There is not a page of the book before us in which we do not find something to disagree with and something to dislike. Yet it is a volume to buy, to keep, and to turn to again and again. We only wish, for Mr. Lowell's sake, it had been simpler, shorter, and written with more self-suspicion.

*Nicholas's Notes.* By the late W. J. PROWSE. Edited by TOM HOOD. London: George Routledge and Sons.

All those to whom the name of "Nicholas" has become familiar in the pages of *Pan* will be ready to refresh their delighted appreciation of the "sportive old man" by purchasing this volume, although they may never have heard the name of the young author whose early death is deplored by all who knew him, and as a necessary consequence of that knowledge, admired and loved him. Alas! that his name should, so soon after he has passed away, be associated only with this burlesque humour, which, clever as it is, is an example only of his very lightest and easiest contributions to literature. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that the reprint of those admirable letters from the sporting prophet, made up into a shilling book to sell on the Derby Day, should be the first public recognition of a young man the strength and grace of whose writing might have been shown by a hundred essays and stories taken from the anonymous journalism of the past few years. Still more is it to be regretted that such a book, made up for such an occasion, should necessarily begin with a reference to the last hours of its author, and should, quite unnecessarily, conclude with some of the deepest and most sacred thoughts that he expressed at the very ebb of life. There is a kind of profanity about this association to some minds, and it would have been well if they could have been spared the pain of such a hurried transition from the serious, tender preface to the farcical contents of the volume, and thence to the solemn and almost awful reflections that greet them in the verses that close the book.

**THE EDUCATION BILL.**—At a meeting of the Surrey Congregational Union, on Tuesday, after full discussion, it was resolved that the Government amendments were inadequate. It was also resolved that, while the Union maintained it to be the duty of the State to confine its interference with education to secular instruction, it recognised the fact that public opinion was not yet in favour of the exclusion of religious teaching, and that some concession was due to the managers of existing schools. It, however, felt it a duty to insist that no schools created by school boards should be of a denominational character, and that in such schools denominational formularies and teaching should be excluded. The Nonconformists of Birmingham have issued an "urgent" circular on the "grave injustice to which it is still proposed to subject the Nonconformists of the country by the unrestricted power given by the Government Education Bill to local boards to determine the religious character of the schools to be aided and supported by local rates." They contend that a new form of religious taxation will be established, and they make an appeal for congregational petitions, public meetings of Nonconformists, district demonstrations, and private communications to members of the House of Commons. At a meeting of the Central Nonconformist Committee on Monday, resolutions were passed declaring that the Government amendments to the Education Bill fail to meet the fundamental objections urged against the measure; and that unless religious instruction in rate-aided schools is limited to the reading of the Scriptures, it will be the duty of Nonconformists to oppose the bill.

**A RESURGENT INSURGENT.**—The reappearance of the Duke of Saldanha on the political stage of Portugal must have greatly astonished M. Firmin Didot and M. Vapereau; for both in the "*Nouvelle Biographie Générale*" and the "*Dictionnaire des Contemporains*" the Duke is stated to have died in 1861. The Duke is, however, old enough to justify the supposition that he was dead. According to Vapereau, he was born in 1780; according to others, in 1791; so that, at all events, he is not less than eighty years of age. Grandson of the celebrated Marquis of Pombal, José Carlos, Duke of Saldanha, Oliveira e Daun, became early a member of the Administrative Council of the Colonies. In 1810 he was taken prisoner by the English and transported to England, whence he was allowed to proceed to Brazil. On returning to Portugal he was made Minister of Foreign Affairs by Juan VI. Subsequent events forced him again to fly on two occasions—once to England and once to France. In 1833, however, he was one of the greatest favourites of Don Pedro, and a generalissimo of the army. His political views changed almost every year, and no party could ever rely upon him. In 1836 he was at the head of a revolutionary insurrection, and was again forced to fly to England, where he remained until the mutiny of 1846. The next year he became chief of the Cabinet—a post which he held for a couple of years. In 1851 he overthrew the dictatorship of Costa-Cabral, and remained in power for the next five years. The respect which Don Pedro II. entertained for the Cortes brought about the fall of the adventurous Minister, who since that time (1856) remained almost constantly at the head of the Opposition. —*Full Mail Gazette.*





THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON RECEIVING THE REPORT OF THE VOTES ON THE PLEBISCITE — SEE ILLUSTRATED TIMES, MAY 28, PAGE 323.)



## THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.

"PAGES PLAYING CHESS."

In this small picture, one of the most attractive in the French exhibition of this year, the artist, M. Guès, has displayed great power of execution and colour. There is, indeed, so much merit in the whole composition that we may well pass over its defects, one of which is the addition of the figures on the left, which appear to have been introduced merely as a balance to the pages on the couch. The great interest of the picture is centred in the standard-bearer, and it is here that M. Guès has lavished his wealth of colour and evinced his most painstaking ability, the execution and pose of this figure being most remarkable.

"THE SECRET."

Our other illustration from the Fine-Art Exhibition in Paris is taken from the work of an artist whose two figures of Penelope and Phryne attracted considerable attention last year. His present work, though it is in an entirely different school of art, will not fail to enhance his reputation. "The Secret" bears no small resemblance in style to those admirable pictures by Alfred Stevens which have been the subject of so much favourable notice at the French and Flemish Gallery in Pall-mall; and the easy pose and graceful rendering of this interesting group suggest as much of grace and beauty as the expression of the faces indicates a story which may be varied at the pleasure of the spectator.

SUNDAY AMONG THE PICTURES.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* gives the following graphic account of a visit he paid, last Sunday, to the exhibition of pictures in the Palace of Industry:—

"It was hot, it was dusty, and the air not so pure as the breath of the hilltops; but it was a pleasing and pleasurable sight, the interior of the Palace of Industry, this summer Sunday, occupied by thousands of the industrious classes of Parisians. Our annual exhibition of the works of living artists has been open some time, and to the contributions of the painter and the sculptor a flower and fruit show is now added. On Sunday the public are admitted gratis; and to-day the large glass-roofed building on the ground floor and in the galleries had attracted the humbler commercial class, clerks, artisans, and no doubt hundreds who gain their living by exercising those innumerable artistic trades connected with house-decoration. Women and children mingled with the crowd, and the utmost propriety and sobriety characterised the evidently amused throng. The picture-galleries attracted the largest number of the visitors. In all countries and in all classes of society a striking painting is pretty nearly sure to invite the attention of the educated or the uneducated. Colour and form appear to address humanity in a language which is sure to be listened to. To-day the Parisians paid comparatively little attention to the statues and the flowers, and, on the other hand, paid a great deal of attention to the long spacious galleries of pictures.

"One always feels a satisfaction that the Palais de l'Industrie, in the Champs Elysées, erected in 1855, was not pulled down. It is highly commodious for all sorts of exhibitions, and affords

admirable accommodation every year for the paintings, sculpture, and architectural designs of French artists and such foreigners as think proper to contribute. The ground floor is turned into a garden, where the works of the sculptor find ample space and admirable light, which sculpture imperatively demands to be properly appreciated. The Pagan gods will look ridiculous in dark corners of small rooms. The galleries where the pictures are hung (and this year there are no less than 2991 oil paintings) are all that could be desired by the most

battle pictures for the gallery of Versailles, official portraits, or may become rich by executing small pictures for the wealthy of the day. If really great, he may make as many thousands as he likes by painting for the 'dealers' of London and Paris. There is a wide field open for him; never was art so extensively patronised, because the world was never so rich as it is in 1870. "The detractors of the French school of to-day originate in the peculiar patronage of the present time. Less care, and time, and study are, as a rule, bestowed on a canvas now than in the

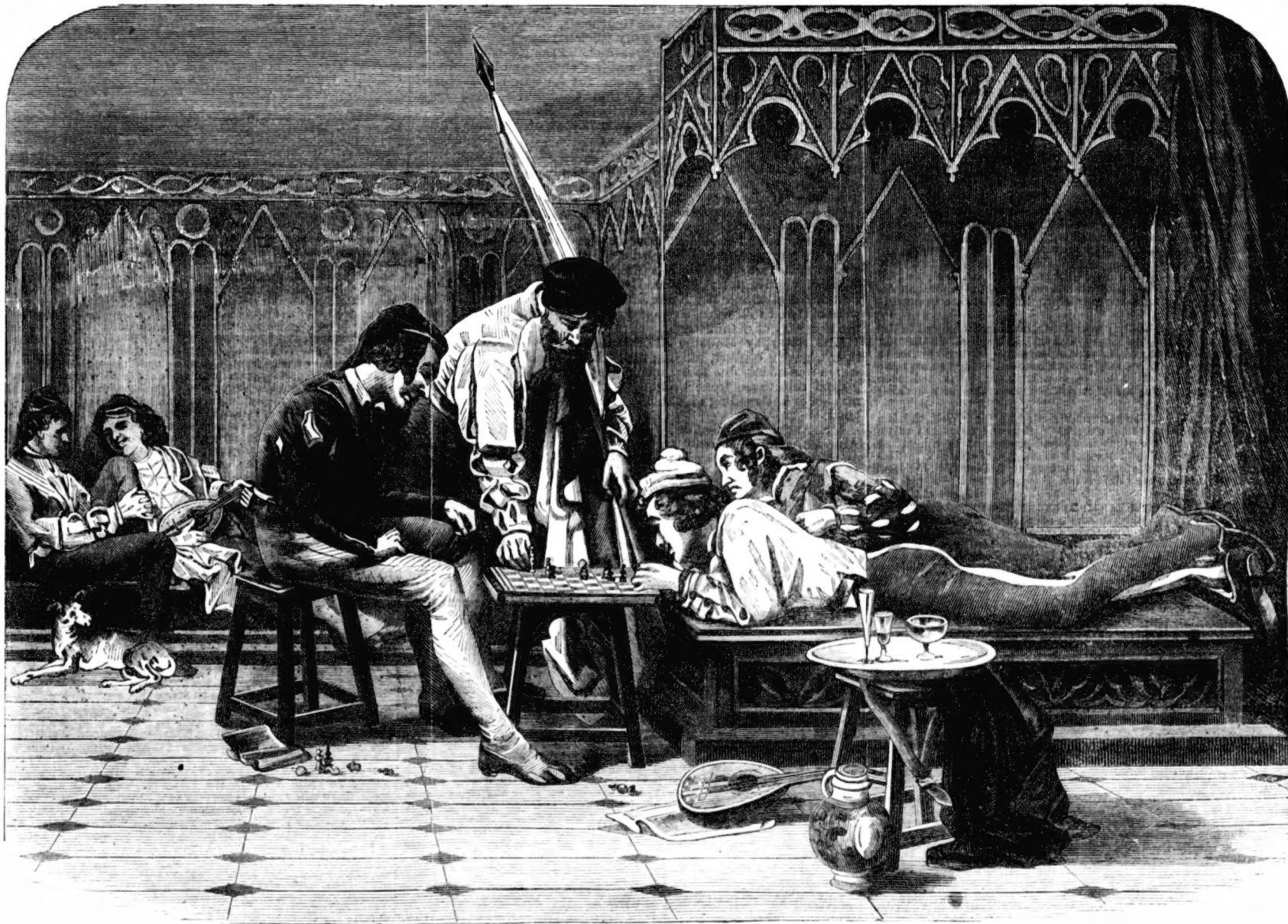
sensitive children of the brush. The glass roof is screened with a canvas veil, and thus the light is subdued, though abundant. The long broad galleries allow such an amount of wall that there is no occasion to hang frames below the sight-line and more than three rows above. The visitor circulates through about half a mile of these chromatic and plastic groves of art without the least crowding. In every compartment of the gallery comfortable seats are placed. You pay one franc entrance on the ordinary days, and a very delightful lounge it is for all who have any appreciation for the fine arts.

"Would the reader care to hear anything about the condition of art in France? One might easily fill half a dozen columns of the *Morning Post* on a subject which really invites a volume. On an occasion like this one can only crowd in a few superficial remarks. In the first place it must be known that French painters are in our day widely patronised by the 'foreign trade,' and French pictures are purchased to a very great extent by foreigners. You are familiar in England with Gérôme, Meissonier, Rosa Bonheur, Doré, and many others of the famed of the day. You buy French pictures in England. But the great patrons of our living artists are Americans. They have spent many thousands of pounds on the present collection. Russians buy, and English dealers buy French pictures, and the French patrons for small cabinet pictures are on the increase. Where the wealthy classes increase the fine arts flourish, and the rich commercial families of Imperial France are now buying pictures and a little sculpture. Pictures, too, fetch a much higher price than they did twenty years ago; perhaps double, on an average.

"What are the French artists about? Well, they have long abandoned their classical school; they have brought their educated drawing and dexterity in using colour to represent more the picturesque of the latter Louis to Middle-Age subjects or to a realism in the treatment of figure subjects or landscapes. French painters have very much improved in colour. You cannot spend a few hours at the Palace of Industry without being struck with what we may call the education manifested in the French school of to-day; at least, so it must strike those who are familiar with English exhibitions, where so many pictures are met with painted by artists who have become painters by accident, and fumbled their way almost alone to whatever excellence they may have obtained. In France parents will systematically bring up a son to be a painter; he will attend the schools of anatomy and drawing, work with a master, and study in the open and easily-accessed public galleries. He may never do much, but he at least knows all of his trade that can be taught. He generally knows how to draw well, and he possesses a system for the use of colour. He may paint big



THE DUKE DE GRAMONT, NEW FRENCH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.  
(SEE ILLUSTRATED TIMES, MAY 21, PAGE 323.)



"PAGES PLAYING CHESS."—(PICTURE BY M. GUÈS, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.)



days of Paul Delaroche and Ary Scheffer, and the great modern masters. There is more commerce in art than of old, and more artists work in colour for money and less for fame. In the present year's collection there are a great many pictures rapidly painted; many the commission ought never to have admitted, as they are unworthy. On the other hand, there are some very fine, carefully studied, and conscientiously painted canvases. I wish I could place before the reader Cabanel's large composition, entitled "Francesca de Rimini." What wonderful drawing, and what harmony of colour! There is not a bit of pure colour in the most conspicuous high lights, and yet how brilliant! The lovers have received the fatal wound; their souls are breathing farewell; and then the rich brocade, satin flowered drapery of Francesca; so much sentimentality, too, to admire connected with "Quel giorno più non vi leggemmo avante."

"There are a great many examples of fine flesh-painting in the present exhibition. There must be something like a hundred female nude figures, lifelike; not goddesses, or nymphs, or ladies of any ideal mythology, but simply women who were not dressed before they had their full-length portraits painted. We are told that some of these pretty examples of the nude are more or less likenesses of the deities which a peculiar modern French patronage likes to robe in luxury and jewels as well as pay for their undressed portraits. But this may be scandal. A portion of the world is very severe in its criticism on luxuries it has neither the means nor the taste to indulge in. There are an immense number of small figure cabinet-pictures and some fine portrait landscapes. The French and Belgian schools are the best of our day."

#### THE IRISH ORANGEMEN.

THE Independent Orange Association of Ireland has issued an address adopted at the half-yearly meeting at Belfast last Saturday, which, after some preliminary remarks, proceeds thus:—

The present crisis in the history of Irish Protestantism is morally significant. We now see the lay leaders of the old Orange society and their sacerdotal allies standing mute and indifferent, while one of the most eminent dignitaries of the Episcopal Church permits the practice of Ritualism by the clergy, which in various forms is sapping the foundation of Evangelical Protestantism. We appreciate the labours of those faithful men who have protested against this insidious apostasy which has penetrated into the bosom of the Episcopal Church; and we call upon all who desire to preserve the truth for which our forefathers bravely contended, to insist that the old landmarks of the glorious Reformation shall not be removed by any party, lay or clerical, who would destroy the spiritual character of religion by the observance of forms which appeal to the outward sense, and are at variance with the leading principles of Protestant doctrine.

We are gratified at the prospect of an early settlement of a question which has long been a subject of anxiety to the agricultural interest in this kingdom; and we have satisfaction in believing that the Land Bill introduced by the present Government, if passed into law, will produce a sense of security and comfort in the homes of the farming community, whose industry and perseverance are the main security for the prosperity of our native land. Especial recognition is merited by Brothers Johnston and Dilway for their services in behalf of the tenant-farmers of Ireland. By their independent action they have shown that their position in the House of Commons is truly representative.

We also view with pleasure the disposition to make a further instalment of justice to Ireland. The proposed Ballot Bill, if sanctioned by the Legislature, will emancipate the people from the trammels of priestly tyranny and landlord influence. After the last general election, and the late election for the county of Antrim, contested by Sir Shafto Adair, many of our brethren were subjected to persecution, arising from the non-protective character of open voting. The ballot will terminate for ever this irritating and degrading system of petty despotism.

The question of the education of the youth of Ireland is of paramount importance, and will, we trust, be considered on the broad basis of toleration and equity; and we desire that those who have given attention to this momentous subject will prevent any undue interference on the part of the Ultramontane clergy, whether accredited by Rome or Oxford.

On Wednesday the half-yearly meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland was opened in Enniskillen—the Earl of Enniskillen in the chair. Amongst the members present were Lord Crichton and Mr. William Johnston, M.P. The Grand Master, in his opening address from the chair, deplored the division in the Orange ranks, and urged union amongst the brotherhood as necessary for the existence of the institution. One of the brethren submitted a number of propositions which, if adopted, will cause a radical change in the character of Orangeism, if it does not destroy it altogether for political purposes. The proceedings of the present meeting are watched with very great interest.

DR. GRANT, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Southwark, who had been in declining health for several months, died on Wednesday morning.

MR. THOMAS NUNNLEY, the eminent Leeds surgeon, died on Wednesday morning, in his sixty-second year. His name is familiar as a witness in more than one poisoning case, including the trial of William Palmer, in 1856.

A FENIAN ALARM HAS OCCURRED AT WOOLWICH, and orders have been received from the Government that extra precautions are to be taken for the safety of the arsenal. At the same time the river police are now armed with revolvers and cutlasses.

MR. SYME, the distinguished Edinburgh surgeon, who had recently retired from the chair which he had held with great efficiency for many years, has just had another paralytic seizure. This is the fourth occasion of Mr. Syme being prostrated from the same cause.

A YOUNG WOMAN who is a stranger in Wakefield was found in a back yard in that town, on Tuesday morning, with her throat cut in a shocking manner. She was seen in company with a navvy about midnight on Monday, and he is supposed to be the murderer. The police are in pursuit of him.

MR. BRUCE, the Leeds stipendiary magistrate, on Monday handed to the Chief Constable of that borough a letter which he had received threatening his life. The learned gentleman is accused of having failed to do justice to the working classes, and he is warned "to look out, or he may be shot some fine day." Mr. Bruce expressed his opinion that the letter had been written by some one occupying a higher position than that of a working man.

PROOF POSITIVE.—Wife (who has been "sitting up") : "Well, this is a pretty time to come home; four o'clock!" Husband (who has taken nothing but one glass of a curious compound spoken of by himself as "Whiskanwarra") : "What you mean, Madam, by 'forklock?' 'Unfortun'ly for you, Madam, it sho' appears, curiousenuff, I parsh'd Big Ben, Madam, and heard it strike one (hic) several times, Madam!"—*Punch and Judy.*

THE LONG AND EXPENSIVE PARLIAMENTARY CONTEST between the Metropolitan District Railway Company and the City authorities was brought to a close on Tuesday. The Lords' Committee unanimously refused to sanction the construction of a line from Bread-street to the Mansion House. The proposal of the Metropolitan Railway Company to abandon their line from Aldgate to Tower-hill was also refused; but the Committee are prepared to recommend that there should be an extension of time, if it be desired, for the completion of the works.

CLIMBING CHURCH.—It seems that this church, one of the most interesting in Sussex, is in a state which calls for instant repair and improvement. The public have been appealed to for aid in order to restore it and to provide sufficient school accommodation in the parish. The greater part of Climbing belongs to Christ's Hospital, but by the Endowed Schools Act that body is precluded from taking up the case at present, and Climbing of itself cannot find site or money sufficient for the purpose. About £2000 will, it is estimated, cover the cost of the repairs. Contributions will be thankfully received by the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Jenkins, formerly Incumbent of Holy Trinity, Shore-ditch, a district notorious for the "Club-row Sunday morning Bird Fair."

THE POPE AND M. VEUILLOT.—Pius IX. has addressed a brief to M. Veuillot, editor of the Paris *Univers*, thanking him and his colleagues for the zeal they have displayed in the defence of the Church, and for the subscription collected through their agency in aid of the funds of the Ecumenical Council. The Pope is particularly gratified to learn that it was principally the humbler clergy of France who contributed to the subscription, and he sees in this fact a proof that they are filled with the ancient simplicity of the faith. He congratulates them upon the support they have given to M. Veuillot, and asks for them a recompense worthy of their religion and their charity. The *Debats* points out that this document is not calculated to diminish the influence which the *Univers* exercises over the secondary clergy of France. They will, on the contrary, be more than ever encouraged to look upon M. Veuillot as their leader, and the authority of the Bishops will be more and more diminished. "This will be," it adds, "one of the consequences of the proclamation of the dew dogma, and we shall, moreover, see the Church of France directed by a journalist, failing, in some measure, the functions of lay legate of the infallible Pope; a strange sight, assuredly, and one of the most curious of the times we live in."

#### MUSIC.

MOZART'S "Nozze di Figaro" has been produced at both houses since our last notice of operatic doings. Drury Lane led the way last Saturday, and promised a cast of exceptional strength. Mdle. Nilsson was announced as the Countess, Mdle. Volpini as Susannah, Mdle. Levitzky as Cherubino, M. Faure as Figaro, and Mr. Santley as the Count. The first-named lady, however, being disabled by hoarseness, did not appear, and thus the performance was robbed of its chief attraction. Mdle. Reboux took Mdle. Nilsson's place; but, though her acting was agreeable enough, she did little to reconcile the audience to their disappointment. Mdle. Volpini as Susannah made a legitimate impression, by means of vivacious acting and singing of a high order. So with Mdle. Levitzky, who displayed very considerable dramatic power. What this young Russian lady can do as a vocalist her performance in "L'Oca del Cairo" proved at the very outset of her London career. M. Faure was in high favour with an audience whom his first air put in the best of temper. He sang "Non più andrai" capitally, and had to reap-appear in acknowledgment of the hearty applause it elicited. Without making Figaro a specially humorous character, M. Faure presented the factotum of Count Almaviva as the bustling, consequential personage we might with reason suppose him to be, and went through the whole business of the part in an artistic manner that quite sustained his reputation. Mr. Santley's Count—the best on the lyric stage—is too well known to call for even passing comment. Enough that all its old excellence was fully sustained. Signor Foli as Don Bartolo, and Mr. Lyall as Don Basilio, again did good service; the former singing the "Vendetta" song, and the latter declaiming "In quegli anni," with capital effect. During the present week "Marta," "Roberto," and "Faust" have been repeated; and to night "Le Nozze" is to be given a second time, Mdle. Nilsson having sufficiently recovered to undertake her part.

At Covent Garden the turn of Mozart's charming opera came on Monday. At this house also there was a strong cast—Mdle. Titiens being the Countess; Madame Lucca, Cherubino; and Mdle. Sessi, Susannah. The first two impersonations are among the best known of public favourites, and it is, therefore, superfluous to assess their merits. Let us, however, remind the reader that Mdle. Titiens sings Mozart's music to perfection, and that it is no common treat to hear "Dove sono" as she renders it. Madame Lucca may not be a great singer, but her assumption of the amorous page is generally recognised as the cleverest, if not the most truthful, of the achievements which have made her name famous. Mdle. Sessi, as Susannah, achieved one of those modest successes to which she has accustomed us. Without brilliant parts, but with a good voice, and industry equal to self-confidence, Mdle. Sessi contrives to keep a fair if not a foremost place in general esteem. We should be sorry to say that she does not deserve it, especially after her performance in "Le Nozze"—a performance distinguished by careful singing and intelligent acting. Mdle. Sessi was frequently applauded by an audience in whose good graces she must have risen considerably as the result of her night's work. Signor Cotogni proved to be an acceptable Figaro, singing well, and throwing into the part a good deal of activity and shrewdness. We cannot say very much in favour of Signor Graziani's Count, still less of Signor Ciampi's Don Bartolo. Basilio had a fair representative in Signor Marino, and the drunken gardener was played by Signor Tagliacofe.

On Tuesday Madame Patti appeared as Dinorah in Meyerbeer's charming opera. She made a distinguished success as regards vocalism, her rendering of "Ombra leggiera," especially, rousing the audience to enthusiasm such as is rarely witnessed. It can hardly be said, on the other hand, that Madame Patti's simulated madness was of a very striking sort. If madness at all, it was that which has a good deal of method in it; and only in the "Shadow" scene did the popular artist contrive to let the audience see that Dinorah had really lost her wits. Corentino was played by Signor Marino, who, apart from a slight disposition to overact the part, made a very favourable impression. He knew the music perfectly, sang it well, and acted with an intelligence obvious enough, spite of the exaggeration to which we have referred. Signor Graziani, as Hoel, did his work in his own peculiar manner, and gave a version of the character quite consistent with the view he takes of it. The two Goatherds, Mdle. Bauermeister and Mdle. Scalchi, were thoroughly efficient; as was Mr. Wilford Morgan, who made his first appearance as the Reaper. Signor Tagliacofe enacted the Hunter; and the chorus and band, under Signor Vianesi, left but little room for improvement. Since Tuesday night "Faust" and "Don Giovanni" have been repeated; the opera for this evening being "Norma."

Among concerts deserving of notice is that of Madame Puzzi, given, in St. George's Hall, on Friday week, with artists mostly selected from the Drury-Lane Opera. A lot of pieces were sung and played in a very familiar manner; but details would hardly interest anybody. On Monday, in St. James's Hall (which was crowded), Mr. Kuhe gave his annual concert. As usual, he provided a very long programme and a great number of artists, among whom was Mdle. Christine Nilsson. The popular Swedish lady sang "Ah! fors' e lui" and one or two national melodies, with all her accustomed success. Others who took part in this concert were Mesdames Monbelli, Trebelli, Sinico, Carola, Wynne, Sherrington; Messrs. Bettini, Mongini, Santley, Foli, Piatti, Saindon, and Mr. Kuhe himself. Nearly all the selections were old and well worn, so that in this case also we are spared the necessity of detail.

Last Saturday Madame Alice Mangold, a pianist of decided talent, gave a concert, in Hanover-square Rooms, the interest of which was mainly due to her own performance. Madame Mangold played selections from Chopin, Henselt, &c., in a charming manner; her reading of the music and its execution being alike good.

Mr. Angus Fairbairn, who is about to leave this country for America, gave a farewell entertainment in the Store-street Hall on Monday last, assisted by Miss Bessie Fairbairn, the Misses Bennett, Mr. R. Spice, and Mr. Ellis Roberts. Few need be told what a capital entertainer is Mr. Fairbairn, or how well he sings a Scottish song. It is equally needless to state that his audience fully appreciated his efforts to please. Encores were the order of the evening; and had every repetition asked for been granted, we know not at what untimely hour the concert would have come to an end. Most readers can give a shrewd guess as to the songs in Mr. Fairbairn's programme; and already they have anticipated such familiar titles as "Bonnie Prince Charlie," "Callie Herrin," "The Land o' the Leal," "Scots wha hae," and "The Hundred Pipers." To make the entertainment all the more national, the "sword dance" and some reels were performed by Highlanders in full costume; and, by way of a consistent wind up, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by the entire audience. So ended, for a while, Mr. Fairbairn's labours on British soil. That all who have been interested in them will wish him success over the water is a matter of course.

Mr. Walter Macfarren gives a concert this afternoon at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover-square.

THE LATE CHRIST CHURCH OUTRAGE.—The authorities of Christ Church have refused permission for the annual Commemoration ball at Oxford, as they consider it would be unbecoming after the late disturbances. There will, however, be other balls at Oxford during the approaching grand Commemoration; and amongst them may be mentioned the University ball, the Masonic ball, and the Brasenose ball. In lieu of the Christ Church ball it is stated a ball will be got up by the *haut ton* under some other name.

THE TURNIP CROP IN YORKSHIRE.—A very serious plague of small brown beetles has occurred in Yorkshire, and during the last few days the sweet turnip crop has been destroyed. This is especially so in the Wold district, many farms having no plants remaining. At Malton, last Saturday, the farmers obtained new stocks of seed, and sowing commenced on Monday. The beetles in myriads have also attacked the tare and pea crops. The long drought is supposed to have favoured this destructive visitation of insect life. Rain for pastures, corn, and, indeed, for all crops is greatly needed.

#### ROYAL CALEDONIAN ASYLUM.

ON Monday evening the fifty-fifth anniversary festival of this institution was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Prince Teck. The company, which numbered about 200, included the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, the Duke of Buccleuch (president of the board of governors), the Earl of Mar, Lords Saltoun, Bothwick, and Garlies, M.P., Sir Roderick Murchison, Sir Thomas Gladstone, Sir Walter Stirling, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Sir Wm. Forbes, Sir Charles M'Gregor, Sir Benjamin Phillips, Sir Wm. Rose, Sir J. Anderson, Major-General Patton, Mr. Erasmus Wilson, Mr. Macne Moir, &c. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening—namely, "Prosperity to the Royal Caledonian Asylum," referred in the following terms to the origin and objects of the institution:—"At the close of the great Continental war, in the year 1815, public meetings were held in London for the purpose of founding an institution for the education and support of the children of those brave Scottish soldiers who had fallen in battle, or who had suffered by sickness and wounds in many a glorious campaign. The first meeting for the founding of the Caledonian Asylum was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Feb. 4, 1815, and was presided over by the illustrious father of her Majesty the Queen. An Act of Parliament was soon afterwards obtained, which established the asylum for the support of the children of Scotch soldiers, sailors, and marines, and of poor Scotch parents resident in London. From that time until the present moment the asylum has been a friend and a protection to the friendless and forsaken. It would, indeed, be difficult to measure the large and lasting benefits it has conferred upon the children of brave men and widowed mothers. For fifty-five years it has proved a blessing to the children of the soldier and the children of the civilian. We remember with what courage and devotion the Scotch soldiers in the British Army have endured suffering and disease, and have given up their lives for the honour and safety of the Sovereign and the empire. Now, it is for the children of these gallant men, who can bequeath little except poverty and sorrow to their families, that the asylum provides an education and a home. But this institution is equally valuable to the commercial and industrial classes of this country. The well-known virtues of the humbler ranks of Scotchmen who are settled in London—patience, industry, and prudence—are not always crowned with success. They, like others, are frequently the victims of ill-luck, sickness, and poverty; and, after fighting bravely with misfortune, they too often sink into their graves with the bitter knowledge that they must leave all whom they love to be cast desolate and helpless upon the world. Thousands of such cases exist, concealed amidst the great mass of suffering with which London is oppressed. To search out these sad cases, and to save these children from the miseries of poverty, ignorance, and vice, is the work and the business of the Caledonian Asylum." The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm; and the secretary, Dr. Daniel, subsequently announced subscriptions amounting to about £1500.

#### WANTON INJURY TO THE TELEGRAPHS.

MR. SCUDAMORE writes to the newspapers as follows:—

I am directed by the Postmaster-General to address to you the following remarks, in the hope that you will give them publicity in your paper. The telegraphs of the United Kingdom are now the property of the nation, and every member of the community is interested in their maintenance and preservation. They are subject to continual injury from the wanton attacks of idle and mischievous persons, chiefly boys, who amuse themselves by throwing stones at the insulators on the telegraph posts. The following statements will show how great is the damage done to the telegraphs of the nation by this wanton and mischievous conduct. One of the engineers of the department reports of the telegraphs in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, that, "although the whole line had been gone over by a repairing gang, and every clipped insulator had been replaced, 500 insulators had been wantonly broken in the course of six weeks. Another engineer, in quite a different part of the country, reports that "it is a Sunday morning's amusement of idle persons to throw stones at the insulators on the lines outside towns and villages." Another officer of the department reports that, "at a point between Canterbury and Dover, he found an iron band, a yard long, with iron nails in it, thrown over the telegraph wires, and placing at least two of them in contact." The engineer of the department in South Wales reports that "as fast as new insulators are put up they are broken by the boys with stone-throwing, and that a large number of new insulators must be at once put in." The engineer of the department in the south of Scotland reports that within a fortnight from the time at which he had re-insulated an important line "a large number of the insulators had been wilfully broken." Another engineer, in describing a large number of breakages wilfully caused in the immediate neighbourhood of London, adds, "most of the contacts, which, of course, cause interruptions of communication, are brought about by the breakage of insulators by stone-throwers." Another engineer reports that, whereas he had "entirely re-insulated the line between Loughborough and Leicester, within six weeks from the time of the re-insulation no less than 150 insulators had been broken by stone-throwing." Under these circumstances the Postmaster-General, in whom the property is vested, with the assistance of the Home Office, has taken steps to have the telegraph lines watched, and to have persons detected in the act of wilfully injuring them prosecuted, under the Malignant Injuries Act, 24 and 25 Victoria, chap. 97, and he has obtained under this Act several convictions, of which public notice has been given. It occurs to Lord Hartington, however, that much inconvenience and much expense would be saved if the public would co-operate with him, by acting, as it were, as the guardians of their own property. There can be little doubt that a great number of the persons who perpetrate this wilful damage are ignorant of the extent and nature of the mischief which they do; and it is very much to be desired that the more intelligent members of the community should exert themselves for the protection of the national property by warning anyone whom they may observe to be engaged in wilfully injuring that property of the effects of his misconduct, and by reporting the same if the warning fails to produce the desired result. It is especially desirable that schoolmasters and all those who have the charge of youths should issue admonitory warnings of this kind, and thereby prevent the boys under their charge from subjecting themselves to a prosecution at law. The importance of perfect telegraphic communication to the whole of the community is now so generally admitted, and the inconvenience resulting from interruptions of that communication is so serious, that the Postmaster-General does not hesitate to ask for the co-operation of all the intelligent members of the community, with him, in the preservation of the property, without which that communication cannot be maintained.

THE EDINBURGH CHAIR OF MIDWIFERY.—Dr. J. G. S. Coghill, F.R.C.P.E., who continued the lectures of the late Professor Sir James Young Simpson at the University of Edinburgh, during the last illness of the illustrious physician, has presented himself as a candidate for the vacant chair of midwifery. Dr. Coghill, who is in the prime of life, had as a student a most distinguished career; he has enjoyed varied experience in foreign countries, and for some years he has acted as assistant to the late Professor in his private practice, which he is now solely conducting.

MR. HUGH SHIMMIN, editor of the Liverpool *Post*, who was recently sentenced to one month's imprisonment, as a first-class misdemeanant, for a libel upon a local shipowner, was on Wednesday morning released from prison. Mr. Shimmin was conveyed from Kirkdale Gaol in an open carriage under the escort of a large number of his friends, and on arriving at the *Post* office the released editor was loudly cheered. The street was dressed with flags and streamers, and the office of the paper was gaily decorated. About £500 over and above Mr. Shimmin's costs has been subscribed in Liverpool.

STATUES OF THE QUEEN AND PRINCE CONSORT AT CAMBRIDGE.—A meeting of the Senate of Cambridge University discussed last Saturday the question of a site for the statue of the late Prince Consort, who for some time filled the office of Chancellor of the University. After a discussion it was recommended that either the Senate House or the Fitzwilliam Museum should be adopted as the site. It was stated that after paying for the state there will remain a surplus of £1000, which it was suggested should form the nucleus of a subscription for a corresponding statue of her Majesty the Queen, to be placed in the central hall of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The Vice-Chancellor promised to report the deliberations to the Council.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO AN ALPINE TOURIST.—A telegram was received at Cambridge last Saturday conveying the intelligence that Mr. E. Royds, of Trinity Hall, has been killed by a fall over a precipice, whilst on a mountaineering expedition on the Alps. Mr. Royds was a most ardent athlete, having several times represented Cambridge against Oxford at the Inter-University Athletic Sports. He was also a very popular and energetic member of the Trinity Hall Boat Club; and out of respect to his memory the Trinity Hall men on Saturday night wore black crapes on their left arms at the University Boat-Races. Mr. Royds recently obtained his B.A. degree. He was very popular throughout the University, and his untimely fate is universally lamented at Cambridge.







GEORGETOWN,--SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1860.